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OPENING THE DOOR TO EL DORADO.

"What a land God has given the Russians!" exclaimed one of Nordenskjold's seamen as he gazed with envious admiration on the fertile prairie land of Northern Siberia. A great land indeed, the Tzar has as his back garden; a land used hitherto but as the dumping ground for exiles from Muscovy, but now destined to become a leading factor in the trade of the world. We publish elsewhere the substance of the despatch in which our Ambassador at St. Petersburg records the concession of privileges as to trade and Customs duties which open up this immense territory to British enterprise. The concession of five years' free imports in the Yenesei, and one year in the Obi, together with one year's permission to navigate the Yenesei with a British vessel, seems but a small thing, but it is, as Sir Robert Morier says, "potential "with commercial revolutions, the importance of which can hardly "be exaggerated, and which by opening up new channels on a vast "scale for British imports and exports is capable in the course of "time of the largest results." The despatch comes opportunely as an illustration of the views which we have been recently setting forth in these columns as to the possibility of doing good business with Russia if only we substitute friendship for bullyragging and treat Russia as a neighbour with whom we wish to be on good terms instead of a kind of omnipotent devil with whom all relations other than those of execration and hostility are impossible. "A colossal fortune," wrote Mr. Seebohm long ago, "awaits the adventurer who "is backed by sufficient capital and a properly organized staff, "to carry on a trade between this country and Siberia, *viâ* the "Kara Sea." It is this road which at last is open, and we heartily congratulate Captain Wiggins, the Phœnix adventurers, and Sir Robert Morier upon their success in surmounting the obstacles which at one time seemed to interpose insuperable barriers between British ports and the great Siberian river highways, by which goods can be taken with only once breaking bulk from the warehouses of London and Newcastle to the consumers in the heart of the Siberian goldfield on the northern frontier of China.

Mr. Sulivan, the managing director of the Phœnix Company, calls special attention "to the friendly and liberal feeling displayed "by his Imperial Majesty the Tzar, and by the Russian "Ministers in thus assisting British commercial enterprise," and we hail this little incident as an illustration of the desire that exists in Russia to welcome any indication of a saner feeling on our part as to the mutual relations of the two countries. In this the Russians are true to their traditions. Ivan the Terrible gave concessions to English traders in Russia far more favourable than those conceded to traders of any other nation. Peter the Great filled the Russian service with Scotchmen, and nearly all the Tzars have shown a marked predilection for Britons as agents in the development, industrial and commercial, of their immense and undeveloped Empire. We have no doubt that if England were to pursue a more neighbourly policy in her dealing with Russia the present Emperor would be willing to go a long way in the direction of commercial concessions. The principle of reciprocity, which is in favour in high places in Russia, can only operate to our advantage, as a commercial treaty based upon that principle would give the Power that takes Russian grain without imposing any duty an enormous advantage over all our foreign competitors. This concession of free imports to the adventurous pioneers who have opened the Kara Sea to commerce is a sign of good things to come, if we have the courage to press forward on the right road.

The future of Siberia is so incalculable that we confine ourselves for the moment to a mere allusion to the practically undeveloped gold reefs which await the arrival of heavy machinery in order to yield their riches to the world. Siberia is said to produce some five millions sterling of gold per annum. This is obtained by the mere scratching of the surface. No machinery such as is set up at once in every accessible goldfield in America, Africa, or Australia has been available in Siberia. The fortunes that have been made in that country—and the Siberian millionaire may vie with the Silver Kings of Nevada—have been picked up with the most primitive appliances, owing to the impossibility of carrying heavy machinery over the Urals to regions where railways were unknown and where it was believed eternal frost barred all access from the sea. The genius and perseverance of Captain Wiggins enabled him to open up a waterway available for the transport of merchandize for three months in every year. The shrewd instinct of Sir Robert Morier, a Cobdenite of the larger sort, with a passion for facilitating the commercial intercourse of the peoples, saw at once what an opportunity this afforded for mutual accommodation on the part of the two nations, and he threw himself heart and soul with all his exuberant energy into the negotiations which after many delays and disappointments were finally crowned by success.

The possibility of an immense development of the latent wealth of Siberia was forcibly pointed out by Mdme. Novikoff in the useful volume "Russia and England," which was published as far back as 1880. Whether the introduction of stamping mills and all the appliances required for extracting gold from the auriferous rocks of Siberia will lead to multiplying the output of gold tenfold as some confidently anticipate, is a question the solution of which must be left to the next few years. But events are moving rapidly. The *Labrador*, which carries with it Captain Wiggins and Sir Robert Morier's son, Mr. Victor Morier, has already made a successful voyage through the Kara Sea, and before long we may expect to hear that her cargo has been delivered safe and sound, by the aid of the Phœnix, two thousand miles inland. The development of the traffic thus begun will be watched with keen interest in both Empires. Captain Wiggins will look after the first stages of the Anglo-Siberian commerce, and it could not be in better hands.

IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR RAILWAYS.

V.—European Expresses.

It may be interesting now to give some examples of speed on the Continent. A stranger might expect that where the trunk lines are so much longer and the express routes less troubled with gradients than in England, an average speed would be achieved higher than in our small and hilly island. This is not the case. Were we, in compiling a list of Continental expresses, to adhere to the English definition of "40 miles an hour, stops included," we should not collect from the whole of Europe as much "express" mileage as is run by our Great Northern line alone. Hence we must lower our colours, and agree to call any Continental train "exp." if it have an inclusive speed not of 40, but *30 miles an hour*. Even then we must constantly concede another mile, to avoid excluding scores of trains whose title to "exp." is never questioned though their speed including stops is barely 29. Lowering the standard thus, we find that Europe has a daily express mileage of about 115,000, as against some 50,000 real "express" miles daily run in England. In our country ridiculous results would follow if a foreigner went round dispensing honours for speed along our lines: modest "stopping" trains on the Great Northern or Great Eastern would be unable to escape; much as we might wish to spare their blushes, they would have to submit and be called "exp." They might indeed, while admitting the attainment of the required speed, yet point to their 3rd class carriages in the hope of putting him off the scent. For in Europe no properly conducted express carries 3rd class people; there are many exceptions, chiefly in Germany; but as a rule when we read "exp." at the head of a time-bill we are not disappointed in the associated legend "1 and 2" or even "1st" only. Thus out of about 50 expresses leaving Paris in every direction daily only four are 3rd class, and 12 are "1st only." Remembering this, we proceed to offer specimens of the choicest speed abroad, to be enjoyed as a rule only under expensive conditions. For the figures that follow we are much indebted to Mr. T. C. Farrer.

France.

In France there are six great companies, the Nord, Midi, Est, Ouest, Orléans, and Paris-Lyon-Méditerranée, besides a small State system running south-west. Each company has most of its own area to itself, secure from competition (except the Orléans, whose Bordeaux route is encroached upon by the State line), but there is a growing struggle on the part of each company to improve its service for international long-distance passengers, and so attract the traveller to its own route. The State, which originally bore part of the expense of making the lines, now exercises a guiding control, and in return guarantees the companies a minimum dividend, mostly over 10 per cent. It has, therefore, no desire that they should diminish their percentage of net receipts by a too generous multiplication of fast trains.

NORD. We begin with the train most familiar to Englishmen :—

Miles.		Intermediate speed.	Miles.		Intermediate speed.
	Paris dep. ... 11.15 ...		208½	... Dover arr. ... 5.0 ...	
82	... Amiens „ ... 1.10 ...	42		(Customs) dep 5.30 ...	
184	... Calais arr. ... 3.32 ...	44 3-5	284-6½	... London ... 7.20 ...	45
	„ Quai „ ... 3.45 ...				

First and second class.

This is 8¼ hours, allowing for the difference of French time, or an inclusive speed of 34½ miles per hour, in spite of the boat and the Customs delay. The French portion is done at an average running speed of 43 4-5ths, the highest but one in France. Another good train of this company is the afternoon express (1 and 2 cl.) from Brussels, which does the 144 miles from Feignies to Paris in 3½ hours, with five stops, an inclusive speed of 41 miles an hour.

EST.—Since the opening of the St. Gothard tunnel two new routes between London and Italy compete with the old established one viâ Paris, Macon, and Mt. Cenis. One is viâ Ostend, Brussels, Strasburg, and Bâle, not entering France at all. The second is viâ Calais and Amiens to Laon (so far over the *Nord* line), whence the *Est* forwards the train to Bâle. This section we give up to Belfort, the frontier :—

Miles.		P.M.	Speeds.	Miles.		P.M.	Speeds
—	..... Laon.....	8.5	..... —	149	..... Chaumont	11.53	..... 40½
	(11 A.M. from London)			222	..... Vésoul	1.40	 43
65	..... Chalons ...	9.41	..... 40 2-3	260	..... Belfort	2.44	..... 38 2-3
93	..... Blesme.....	10.24	..... 45 2-5				

First and second class.

This shows an inclusive speed of 39, and a running-average of 41 2-5 per hour, a very creditable piece of work over difficult ground. It is strange that a company which can be as brisk as this should take no steps to develop an express service over its own route between Paris and Belgium or Germany : it is content to see the whole of the traffic between these countries travel viâ the *Nord* and Cologne. There is here a refined resignation which makes our "race to Edinburgh" stand out in vulgar contrast.

OUEST. Not a brilliant line. Its best is a train to Dieppe, not part of the Newhaven service.

Miles.		P.M.	Speeds.	Miles.		P.M.	Speeds.
—	..... Paris.....	12.45	..... —	101	..... Cleres	3.42	 40
50	..... Vernon.....	2.6	 37	125	..... Dieppe.....	4.27	 33
85	..... Rouen	3.11	 35				

Inclusive speed, 34 ; running average, 36. First class only.

MIDI.—Some good speeds occur now and then, chiefly with through traffic between Paris and the Mediterranean viâ Bordeaux; if the Midi forward this smartly from Bordeaux they compete successfully with the more direct P.L.M. route from Paris. Hence the running between Bordeaux and Cette is sometimes remarkably good, as with this train, which brings Cette within 18¼ hours of Paris, 660 miles :—

Miles.		P.M.	Speeds.	Miles.		P.M.	Speeds.
—	... Bordeaux.....	6.55	...	194	... Castelnaudary	11.51	... 38 2-3
49	... Marmande ...	8.2	... 44	217	... Carcassonne..	12.23	... 46
85	... Agen	8.52	... 45	252	... Narbonne ...	1.19	... 41
128	... Montauban...	9.58	... 42 1-3	268½	... Béziers	1.51	... 41¼
160½	... Toulouse.....	10.50	... 40 2-3	296	... Cette	2.36	... 38 2-5

Inclusive speed, 38½ ; running average, 42. First class only.

PARIS-LYON-MÉDITERRANÉE (P.L.M.).—This company, the most extensive in France, has a low average speed and fewer expresses in proportion than any other. "It seems hardly credible that there is not a single train along the Riviera, winter or summer, which attains to the rank of an express according to our definition of 29 miles an hour stops included. One train between Cannes and Mentone, labelled "Exp. 1st only," does the journey at 18 miles an hour. Again, one train from Marseilles to Paris, styled "Direct," takes 25 hours for the 536 miles, or barely 22 miles an hour." (Marseilles, dep. 10.10 P.M. ; Paris, arr. 11.16 P.M.)

The quickest train between Paris and Marseilles is as follows :—

Miles.	1st Class only.		Miles.	1, 2, 3 Class.	
	Marseilles ..... dep.	6.37 P.M.		King's Cross ..... dep.	8.0 P.M.
536	Paris ..... arr.	9.25 A.M.	552	Aberdeen ..... arr.	9.55 A.M.
	Stops 62 min. on the way.			Stops 80 min. on the way.	
	Inclusive speed	36¼		Inclusive speed	40
	Running average	39		Running average	44

We insert here for comparison the "Tourist" from King's-cross, which is a much heavier train, has a harder route, and passes through the hands of four separate companies before it reaches Aberdeen, while the Marseilles train is managed by the P.L.M. throughout. But to make the comparison fair we should measure our East Coast express not against the Limited "1st only" from Marseilles, but with one on the French line which carries *3rd class* passengers. Now, the quickest 3rd class train between Paris and Marseilles requires 21 hours for its journey, an inclusive speed of 25½, as against 40 to Aberdeen. Thus it is the subjects of a limited monarchy who have full liberty to fraternize at an equality of speed in the best expresses, while under the Republican flag poor citizens who are not endowed with affluence must be content to waste 50 per cent. more time *en route*. But the P.L.M exerts itself a little more in regard to the traffic to and from Italy viâ Mont Cenis, because of the competition of the other routes. The best train is :—

Miles.		P.M.	Speeds.	Miles.		P.M.	Speeds.
—	..... Paris	9.5	.....	316¾	..... Ambérieu.	4.55	..... 37¾
96½	..... Laroche...	11.24	..... 41¾	347¾	..... Culoz	5.53	..... 35¼
195½	..... Dijon.....	1.49	..... 42½				
273¾	..... Macon ...	3.43	 43	496	..... Turin (arr.)	1.58	..... —
297¾	..... Bourg.....	4.23	 38		(leaving London 11 A.M.)		

Inclusive speed, 39½ ; running average, 41. First and second class.

The competition of the St. Gothard route has smartened up the P.L.M. and its Italian partner the *Mediterraneo* so much that they take twelve hours less than before between Paris and Rome, while 2nd class through passengers are now admitted in the best express. The P.L.M. has also a service of very good trains to the watering-places of Royat, La Bourbole, &c., where they meet the competition of the Orléans Company.

ORLÉANS. Here we come to the most energetic of the French lines. Bordeaux is better served than any town in France, partly because, like Bristol, it is a point on a roundabout route to some further place for which competition exists (*e.g.* Toulouse, Exeter), and the longer route must make up by higher speed. Its finest train, which is also the finest in France, reads thus :—

Miles.		P.M.	Speeds.	Miles.		P.M.	Speeds.
—	... Paris dep.....	6.58	...	206	... Poitiers	11.45	... 42 2-3
74	... Les Aubrais...	8.38	... 44½	276	... Angoulême ...	1.24	... 44¼
143½	... S. Pierre des Corps	10.13	... 45 2-3	327	... Coutras	2.38	... 43¾
				364	... Bordeaux.....	3.30	... 44½

Inclusive speed, 42 3-5 ; running average, 44 1-5. Luxe train.

This is the express of the Sleeping Car Co., which runs on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, returning on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. The fares by this train are 50 per cent. above the usual first-class. There is also a regular first-class express each way, taking about 9¼ hours, an inclusive speed of 40; and one third-class train each way occupies twelve hours, or thirty miles an hour. The Orléans Company run a good express from Paris (10.40 A.M.) to Angers, 211 miles, in 5 h. 37 min., an inclusive speed of 37½ ; this is the fastest 3rd class train in France, and owes its existence to a two-fold competition.

The total express mileage of France is over 41,000, or 36 per cent. of the total for Europe (excluding England). The average running speed is 36½ miles per hour. Germany has a total of about 33,500 (29 per cent. of European total), with an average running speed of about 34. France, therefore, heads the list easily, and still more so in proportion to population.

GERMAN EMPIRE.

The railways of Germany are now mostly in the hands of the State, and are practically ruled from Berlin. From an express point of view they are managed in a very unsatisfactory way. Fifteen years ago the fast trains run by competing private companies between Berlin and Aix or Cologne (for England) were well abreast of the age, and so were those by the three competing lines between Berlin and Frankfort : but while the years pass on and other countries advance with the times the German Government maintains the same old speeds. The mail service to England must not go by the best natural route (the mails are taken from Cologne through Holland viâ Flushing), as that would involve transit through France. In matters, too, of good "connexions" and convenient junctions a Government is far from seeking the comfort of the public whom it serves.

The most important expresses in Germany are those between *Berlin* and *Cologne*, which convey the mails for London, Paris, Brussels, and Madrid. Yet the speed *excluding stops* is barely 40 miles an hour—a disgrace to the Fatherland. The two quickest take 10 hours for the 363 miles, an inclusive speed of only 36⅓. Another important service is that between Berlin and Hamburg : the distance is 177½ miles, the best time 4¾ hours, an inclusive speed of 37⅓. This is a good train ; but Liverpool is 16 miles further from Euston, and has 4 or 5 trains each way in 4½ hours by the North Western alone, while Hamburg has only one each way as fast as 4¾ hours, and they are not 3rd class. Yet Liverpool, like Oliver Twist, is always asking for more.

The service between Berlin and Dresden is very good : viâ Röderau the distance is 117 miles, time 3 h. 6 min. ; viâ Zossen, 109 miles, time 3 hours. This latter is over single line, and is therefore very praiseworthy. Another capital run on single line is that from Emden to Münster (*Right Rhine Administration*) 111 miles in 3 hours. An average of 37 miles an hour on single line is rarely attained anywhere, only, we think, in England by the Great Eastern. One of the best German expresses is the international mail for St. Petersburg (*Bromberg Administration*), which runs from Berlin to Eydtkuhnen, 460 miles, in 13½ hours, at an average running speed of 37 miles per hour. This express is 3rd class, and the best *long-distance* 3rd class train in Europe. (From King's-cross to Perth is 462 miles, but the time is 10¾ hours.)

A well-known train is that run by the Imperial Elsass-Lothringen Administration between Bâle and Luxembourg, conveying through passengers from London to Italy viâ Ostend and the St. Gothard. This competes with the train already noticed run by the *Est* in France, but is nothing like so fast. The distance is 227½ miles, the time 6¾ hours, or not quite 34 miles an hour exclusive ; whereas the French line runs at 39. (Darlington is 232 miles from King's Cross, and is less than 5 hours' journey).

The *Elberfeld Administration*, being entrusted with the richest industrial district of Prussia, responds with the slowest set of trains in the kingdom. Essen and Crefeld are nourished by *two* of these "expresses" per day each way : what would Leeds and Bradford think of this?

There is nothing else deserving mention, except an express of the *Baden State* Railway, competing for international traffic : this runs between

Mannheim and Bâle in 4¾ hours, 162 miles, at an inclusive speed of 34. At the tail of the list for speed come unabashed the *Bavarian*, the *Wurtemburg*, and the *Saxony* lines. Owing to their contempt for speed it is 2 hours quicker to go from London to Vienna through Paris than by the direct German route which is 100 miles shorter.

We conclude the German lines by presenting the best express between Berlin and Vienna. It will be observed that the inclusive speed between these capitals is actually less than that between London and Paris, though there is the sea to be crossed in the latter case.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

Miles.		A.M.	Speeds.
	Berlin... dep.	8.0	
Berlin Administration.—Running speed average 37.			
63	... Dobril Kirchhain	9.42	... 37
87½	... Grossenhain	10.24	... 39¾
109	... Dresden	11.3	... 34
Saxon State Railway.—Running speed average 31⅔.			
121	... Pirna	11.47	... 34⅓
135	... Schandau ...	12.14	... 32⅓

Austro-Hungarian State Railway.
Running speed average 38½.

Miles.		A.M.	Speeds.
147	... Bodenbach...	12.40	... 29
161	... Aussig.....	1.14	... 37
211	... Kralup	2.33	... 39
226	... Prague	3.3	... 31
266	... Kolin	4.7	... 41⅓
293	... Pardubitz ...	4.48	... 40½
314½	... Chotzen	5.21	... 41⅔
330	... Böhm Trüban	5.51	... 40½

K. Ferdinand's Northern Railway.
Running speed average 37¼.

386	... Brünn	7.24	... 37
425	... Lundenburg.	8.30	... 37¾
456	... Gaüserndorf.	9.24	... 37½
476	... Vienna ... arr.	10.0	36⅓

First, second, and third class.

This express improves as it enters Austria. It traverses a great deal of difficult ground, and its speed is therefore creditable. We might compare it with the Midland route to Perth, which is practically the same length, and very hilly.

Miles.			Miles.		
	St. Pancras ... dep.	8.35		Berlin..... dep.	8.0
479	Perth..... arr.	8.35	476	Vienna ..... arr.	10.0
	inclusive speed 39½			inclusive speed 34	
	running speed 44			running speed 37½	

The Vienna train may be more convenient for local purposes, as it stops 16 times (78 minutes) against 10 times (74 minutes) on the Midland. The above train, *i.e.*, the Austrian section of it, is the best express in Austro-Hungary, and the *Austro-Hungarian State Railway* is the most enterprising of the lines. This railway has another good train between Vienna and Orsova, 477 miles in 15 hours (1 and 2 class), an inclusive speed of 31 miles an hour, which is faster than the celebrated "Orient" express to Constantinople over the same route.

The Austrian railways seem to do better in proportion over mountainous ground. Thus the (9 P.M.) express from Vienna to Trieste has to cross two separate mountain ranges, but it does the 370 miles in 14 hours, or 26½ miles an hour including stops; and the Paris-Vienna express runs from Buchs (1.30 P.M.) to Salzburg, 268 miles, at the same speed, taking the Alps on the way (viâ Arlberg). This last train goes from Paris to Vienna through Switzerland, never touching German soil at all. The fare is the same as viâ Munich, but the route is 72 miles longer.

The railways in Austro-Hungary are mostly under Government control, the exceptions being the lines that run northwards towards Germany. The express mileage is about 14,000, or 12 per cent. of the total for Europe.

(*To be continued.*)

"*FRANCIS BACON.*"*

THE plan of the "Philosophical Classics" is for the first time departed from in the case of Francis Bacon; and the departure was inevitable. It conduces indeed to truth that the active and the contemplative life of a great thinker should be treated together; nor, as Professor Nichol is well aware, is Bacon an exception to this rule. But the necessities of space left no choice. The two subjects could not possibly be included within the compass of a single volume. And it must be allowed that we read about Bacon the philosopher with more pleasure when we have not to think about Bacon the statesman.

The very little fault-finding that we have to do shall be done at once. The style, especially in the earlier part of the volume, is somewhat too ornate and allusive. What does Professor Nichol mean when, after telling the story of Bacon's successful début as a courtier, in describing his age as "only two years younger than your Majesty's happy reign," he goes on, "But stars adverse to the Cassiopœia of his freshmanship intervened?" We may guess an allusion to the "sphered up with Cassiopëia" of the "Princess"; but there is too much of the "professor of literature" here. Among the scanty records of Bacon's personality place might have been found for some notice of the still existing memorials, the garden and the trees, which connect him with Gray's Inn. Finally, why the extravagant Scotticism of a list of "The Parliaments of James VI."? Parliaments held at Westminster were surely "Parliaments of James I."

In the various perplexing questions which concern Bacon's character, Professor Nichol holds the balance with scrupulous fairness. It will not be from any adverse, far less from any unfair, advocacy on his part if the reader's judgment at the end inclines to the "guilty" of Lord Macaulay and Dr. Abbott, rather than the "not guilty" of Mr. Spedding. There are too many doubtful or suspicious things to apologize for. There is something that has at least a sinister look in the relations of Bacon with every person that he had to do with either as friend or enemy. Sometimes the verdict will be acquittal; sometimes "not proven;" never, perhaps, a clear "guilty;" but the general impression is that there must have been something wrong. We may excuse his flattery of Queen Elizabeth, though, when we know what a clear-sighted man who saw her close at hand must have seen, it stretches our charity to do so. But what apology is there for his adulation of James? There is much, again, to be said for his behaviour in the matter of Essex. Essex was an unprincipled adventurer, frenzied with ambition and vanity, and amply deserved his doom, and Bacon was but doing his duty as a Crown Counsel (a title which meant much more then than it does now) in helping to bring him to justice. But Essex had shown to him a princely generosity, and Bacon was not absolutely compelled to speak. His conduct was, as Professor Nichol puts it, "not noble." But what are we to say of his relations with Buckingham, to whom he was certainly subservient up to the very verge, if not beyond the verge, of corruption? And what again of his action in the case of Raleigh? He had, as Professor Nichol points out, little to do with the trial, a mere travesty of justice, in which indeed his help was not wanted, but his "Declaration of the Treasons of Sir Walter Raleigh" was "an odious task somewhat odiously performed." Apropos of this affair Professor Nichol remarks that "it is certainly notable that in the long and intellectually splendid course of his pleadings there is no great defence." Bacon, in short, was always an accuser. The fact may be accounted for both by the circumstances of his position and by the character of his intellect. But one cannot help contrasting it with Cicero's boast that he had never pleaded on behalf of an accusation till the overpowering sense of the wrongs of a ruined province drove him to prosecute Verres. When Horace wishes to compliment a great advocate he describes him as "a tower of strength to the accused." There would have been no credit in success as an accuser.

The story of Bacon's fall is told in a narrative which is a model of clearness and fairness. The summing-up does not err on the side of severity. To some it will seem too favourable. "He had satisfied himself with judging justly, and had been almost invariably careless of his conduct in the eyes of others." In one case, certainly, which Professor Nichol relates at length, that of Dr. Steward (pp. 168-9), he had allowed a just judgment to be practically set aside. But this was at the instance of Buckingham. But he had not perverted the law for bribes, though he had taken bribes, if a bribe is a gift received *pendente lite*. "Careless of his conduct in the eyes of others" is a very charitable verdict. It might stand if Bacon's career had been blameless up to the time of his elevation to the Chancellorship. Can it stand when we compare it with the facts?

It is most interesting to see side by side with all this miserable weakness the sagacity, the greatness, we may even say the grandeur, of some of Bacon's political conceptions. Never was a man so infected with the vices of his age, and yet so much in advance of it in the breadth and dignity of his ideas. After all, Pope was not far wrong with his famous summary, "greatest, wisest, meanest." A reader who wishes to see how each epithet is justly qualified cannot do better than study this excellent volume.

* "Francis Bacon: His Life and Philosophy." By John Nichol, M.A. Part I. Bacon's Life. (Edinburgh and London: Blackwood and Sons. 1888.)

"MARAHUNA."

"Marahuna." By H. B. Marriott Watson. (Longmans.) No lack of enterprise can be imputed to Mr. H. B. Marriott Watson for his "Marahuna." By way of preparation for it, he must have shut himself from the world into the library of some pleasant country house, with Darwin's "Voyage of the *Beagle*," Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner," William Morris's "Sigurd," or perhaps the score of Wagner's "Nibelungs Ring," with "Elsie Venner," "Frankenstein," and Poe's tales thrown in. Imagine a new *Beagle*, driven by an invincible north wind straight for the South Pole, chancing on a perilous opening in the barriers of that dreadful region, and coming at last to a great wall of fire. Encircled by this wall there is a Brynhild; and, according to precedent, the new Darwin should sail fearlessly through and wake her with a kiss. But his scientific turn of mind rather leads him to conclude that the enclosure is too warm for any one but a salamander; consequently Brynhild has to take the initiative and come out, at which he is extremely taken aback. Now, this is a spirited start for a modern novel; but the worst of it is the difficulty of keeping it up. When Brynhild-Marahuna comes to England and takes her place in the giddy society of that island, neither the author nor his naturalist hero know exactly what to do with her. When the house catches fire, she proves more than equal to the occasion, as a woman with her early advantages naturally would; but before the more awful emergency of a baronet falling into a pond she, being preoccupied just then in plucking water-lilies, takes no more trouble about him than if she were a great shipowner and he only a common sailor. Consequently he is drowned; and though Marahuna encouragingly assures his disconsolate relatives that they will get over it in the course of the drive home she is dropped by the county as a social failure; and Mr. Watson shortly afterwards takes a hint from Mary Shelley and deposits his heroine in a volcano, where the climate and the importance of baronets are better suited to her constitution and prejudices.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

General Boulanger has gone up again like a rocket. Here are the final figures in the three departments where he stood for election yesterday :—

	Boulangist.	Republican, &c.
Somme	76,094	41,371
Charente Inférieure	57,484	42,416
Nord (two seats)	256,719	204,616
	390,297	288,403
Boulangist majority		101,894

No words are needed to emphasize the force of those figures. Universal suffrage is the power to which all parties in France appeal, and the substantial slice of the universal suffrage appealed to yesterday went Boulangist by a majority of 100,000.

Some of the General's opponents are consoling themselves with the reflection that each of the departments which went Boulangist yesterday was anti-Republican before. But when the figures are closely studied this will be seen to be very cold comfort. Passing over the Nord, in which the significance of General Boulanger's victory was fully appraised in April, we note that in the other two departments the anti-Republican majority in 1885 was extremely small. Here are the figures at that election and at yesterday's, severally :—

	Anti-Republican.		Republican.	
	1885.	1888.	1885.	1888.
Charente Inf.	62,551	57,484	61,990	42,416
Somme	67,391	76,094	67,276	41,371

It will be seen from these figures that in each of these widely separated departments the Republican minority is much greater now than in 1885. It is not enough, therefore, to say that General Boulanger has merely got the old Reactionary vote. He has taken over a very serious portion of the old Republican vote as well. If he can do that everywhere, what will become of the Republic?

In face of such disheartening facts, it is not surprising that some of the General's enemies should be in despair. Even M. Blowitz has to admit this morning that the game is up, and can only console himself—with characteristic modesty—by Schiller's remark, that "against stupidity even the gods fight in vain." But has there not been a good deal of stupidity on the side of the superior persons who have failed to see wherein lies the real strength of the Boulangist movement? No amount of ridicule—they complain—not even the duel with M. Floquet—has killed "the General." No; because the General is strong not in himself, but in the innumerable discontents and aspirations which—in the midst of so flighty a people as the French—have focussed themselves upon him.

The best point in Mr. Morley's speech at Lincoln on Saturday was his reference to a declaration made in 1881 by Mr. Chamberlain to the effect that "to have stopped the agitation of the Land League would have been to prevent reform." It is to be the cue of the Parnell Commission, people say, to inquire into the whole operation of the Land League and National League. If so, the Irish members will have to put into court the testimony rendered by official authorities, from Cabinet-Minister Chamberlain to Under-Secretary Redvers Buller, to the indispensable assistance rendered to the government of the country by those two great associations.

M. Zola must be a difficult man to interview, judging by the ludicrous fiasco that has attended the attempt of the *Daily Telegraph* to draw him on the subject of Mrs. Mona Caird's article on marriage. Beyond asking questions which the interviewer did not seem able to answer, M. Zola seems to have said little or nothing beyond repeating his inspiring and familiar doctrine, "We are all going to universal rottenness." Out of this the interviewer constructs a column and a half of "the views of M. Zola." It would have been more accurate to have headed it "The House and Furniture of M. Zola," for views there are none. That "marriage is like the Church, an old and faulty institution, which must go on until something better is found to replace it," can hardly be described as a view peculiar to M. Zola.

For the latest and perhaps most striking illustration of the condition of mind to which political enmity will bring some men commend us to the speech of Mr. E. De Lisle, M.P., at a Primrose demonstration held near Leicester. Speaking of the Parnell Commission the "honourable" gentleman said :—"If Mr. Parnell and his associates were innocent of the crimes laid to their charge it was in the interest of justice and humanity that they should be dispelled. On the other hand, he could not deny that he should like to see the truth of the charge brought home to Mr. Parnell and his associates, because he was persuaded by the facts which he had observed and carefully analyzed that they were guilty of these crimes." Here, then, is one gentleman who has no doubt on the matter. Not all the judges in England can alter the mind of Mr. De Lisle. The judgment of a Commission will apparently have no weight in this quarter. For Mr. De Lisle appears to think that if Mr. Parnell is not guilty he ought to be. That, to put it briefly, is the meaning of the above quoted remarks. Mr. De Lisle would do well to study the chapter on "The Political Bias" in Herbert Spencer's "Sociology."

Two years ago to-day Prince Alexander of Battenberg was compelled to quit Bulgaria by a military revolt which was ill-timed, unprepared for, and ill-advised. It was a mistake in almost every way, but it was especially unfortunate from the point of view of Russia. Prince Alexander, no doubt, deserved his fate. He had quarrelled with the one Power with whom he ought to have kept on good terms, and he had convinced the Tzar that he was incorrigibly false and untrustworthy. But although the Russians shed no tears over his fall they were much too shrewd to have desired to see it brought about as it came to pass. All the discredit of the pronunciamiento was thrown on them, with much the same justification that we were saddled with the scissoring of Abdul Aziz. Now that it is settled at Berlin and St. Petersburg that Prince Ferdinand must go, we hope that the manner of his going will not be so unhappily contrived as that of his predecessor. It would indeed be a graceful and considerate act if the Coburger were to anticipate matters by a timely abdication.

On Saturday the Emperor-King Francis Joseph celebrated his fifty-ninth birthday, and the *Standard* takes occasion to sing his praises as "the Warden of the Balkans." Austria, this Ministerial authority tells us, is the champion of non-intervention, whose sole desire is that the young States and liberated communities of the Peninsula should evolve for themselves national freedom and political self-government. It would not be a bad thing if the Emperor-King were to make a birthday resolve to realize the ideal of this journalistic visionary. At present, with a Hungarian Catholic lieutenant in Sophia in defiance of the Berlin Treaty, Servia reduced to the position of a mere appendage to Vienna, and with Austrian troops actually garrisoning Bosnia and the Herzegovina, the disinterestedness of this guardian of existing treaties and apostle of non-intervention is not very visible to the naked eye.

Signor Crispi's answer to M. Goblet has been published, and the incident is now considered at an end by the Cabinet at Rome. It is only beginning, according to the opinion of the Cabinets at Paris and Constantinople. The Turkish Government is likely to be drawn into the controversy by the assumption of Signor Crispi that Massowah had ceased to be part and parcel of the Turkish Empire before Italy occupied it, and by the equally calm assumption that it is now part and parcel of Italian territory. Italy, according to Signor Crispi, has not only occupied, she has annexed, and therefore the capitulations, even if they existed, lapse, as they lapsed in the Dobrudscha when ceded to Roumania, and in Kars and Batoum when Eastern Armenia went into the possession of Russia. But as a matter of fact, according to Signor Crispi, they did not exist, for Massowah had ceased to be part of Turkey before Italy picked it up as part of the flotsam and jetsam of the southern possessions of Egypt. This is ingenious, but it will hardly hold water. If the Turk denies that he had abandoned Massowah he knocks the bottom out of the Italian contention; and while he might wink at an occupation, it would not be in Turkish human nature to tolerate an out-and-out annexation. Rome makes a great mistake if it fancies that the Sultan is *une quantité négligeable* in the Red Sea.

From Yarmouth comes the news of another fight for free speech and the right of public meeting. On Saturday a Socialist named Poyntz was sentenced to a month's imprisonment for holding a meeting, against the by-law of the local authorities. Others are preparing to follow his example, and a second edition of Torquay seems imminent. Official stupidity still fails to see that this sort of action only gives a splendid advertisement to the meetings which it attempts to suppress, and, with persistence on the part of the suppressed, is bound to be beaten in the long run, especially when, as is the case at Yarmouth, the sympathy of the working population is on the side of those who are carrying on the free-speech fight.

"Mr. Grossmith is not the first and will not be the last entertainer," writes a correspondent, "who has been exploited by greedy hosts and hostesses for their own amusement, and has occasionally to resist their encroachments. It is reported of the celebrated violinist Ernst that upon being asked to dinner and invited to bring his violin with him he replied, "Merci! Mon violon ne dine pas." Liszt would often play most graciously if not asked, but would immediately leave the room if invited to touch the key-board; and Von Bülow is still more punctilious, for he makes it a proviso before entering a strange house that he must not be asked to play. Poor Sheridan, whose wit meant money to him, was invariably expected to say something funny whenever he opened his mouth, and had to protest against people going into fits

when he asked them to pass the salt. But it must be owned he was less sensitive than the irritable musicians, and seldom disappointed his company, though at times he was a little rough on his persecutors. "Here I am, Sheridan," said a noble Duke one day as he came up to the great wit, chuckling by anticipation. "So I see," says Sheridan, at which the Duke roared; but, recovering himself, "ready to swallow all your good things. Ha! ha!" "Your grace must have an excellent digestion." "What? eh! how do you know that?" "Why," said the wit, "because you never by any chance bring any of them up again!"

A sensational lawsuit will shortly be tried in Brussels, in which Artemus Ward would have taken a lively interest. M. Maurice Castan, the Tussaud of the Belgian capital, has lately placed in the Chamber of Horrors of the Castan-Museum two new "moral figures," representing the brothers Armand and Léon Petzer, the murderers of the advocate Bernays. Armand is dead, but Léon is still living, and is at present an inmate of the house of correction at Louvain. The family of the Petzers is highly aggrieved, and feels itself to be cruelly insulted by this attempt to make money out of the crime and misery of two of its members, especially as one of them is alive. They have instructed a lawyer in Brussels to bring an action against the popular showman. There is much excitement about the case, as the issue of it will have important consequences for the exhibitors of "moral" wax figures.

THE BATHER'S BOGEY.

BY ONE WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE IN HIM.

CRAMP, that terrible bogey of inexperienced bathers and ignorant jurymen, turns up as regularly in the silly season as the two-column correspondence of the *Daily Telegraph*. He has begun his old tricks again, and has already taken victims from East coast, West coast, and South coast; from river and inland pond. The reports of his misdeeds have made the holiday-taking materfamilias almost afraid to venture her toes in the tempting wavelets, and have driven the courageous nymph who had nearly learned to swim (with only one foot at the bottom) back to the radius of the friendly rope. In face of these alleged achievements it may seem disrespectful to Bogey if I venture to hint that he is not the terrible Mr. Hyde that he is supposed to be—that, in short, he is utterly incapable of any serious offence. I do not mean to suggest that cramp is not a most unpleasant and painful affection, whenever and wherever met with. I have seen a strong man when seized by it in the football-field or on the cinder-path hop about in agony as though his leg were broken. I have known it possess a kneeling bridegroom at the most solemn moment of his existence, and compel him to extend his flexed leg so suddenly as to scatter bridesmaids and bouquets in confusion. But cramp, excruciating torture as it is, is no more dangerous to life on land than "pins-and-needles" or toothache, and no more perilous to the swimmer than a mouthful of cold water taken involuntarily.

Almost every day during the bathing season one sees it reported in the newspapers that a swimmer has been seized by cramp and drowned. In cases of this kind there are three points especially noteworthy: first, that the victim's first signal of distress is the elevation of his arms, frequently with a piteous cry; secondly, that after submersion he seldom rises to the surface; and thirdly, that even when the body has been almost immediately recovered all efforts at resuscitation are unavailing. These things are strange to the practised swimmer, who knows that if all his limbs were paralyzed by cramp he need not drown or die provided that the water were moderately smooth, and that the shore was in sight or help within hail. The last thing a swimmer would do if suffering from cramp or exhaustion in these circumstances would be to throw up his arms—an action which, in accordance with the laws of gravity, must inevitably be followed by the immediate submersion of the respiratory orifices. In swimming, as in other exercises, habit becomes instinct; and the experienced bather when in difficulties would as soon think of lifting up his arms as of putting his nose under water. This elevation of the arms is indeed one of the most significant symptoms of the typical cases to which I have referred. It is not the reasoned action of a man in his senses, but the convulsive effort of a man struck by a mortal blow. Cramp, I believe, is only dangerous to bathers in so far as the work of combating it tends to exhaustion. It cannot kill anybody, or compel a swimmer to instantly abandon his efforts and sink like a stone.

Depend upon it, the poor fellow who throws up his arms with that heartrending cry is face to face with a foe far more fearful than cramp, and is unconscious for the moment of his danger from drowning. In all human probability, death has carried him off, even before the tips of his uplifted fingers disappear beneath the water. Nevertheless, five or six days hence, when the lifeless body is washed ashore, the coroner will talk to the jury of the fatal dangers of cramp, and the twelve good men and true will record their conviction that death resulted from drowning—a verdict which, if not untrue, is as unsatisfactory as that of the Deptford jury which the other day declared that Donovan, the diver, met with his death "by jumping into the Thames"—in face of the probability that he died from jumping on to the abutments of Hungerford Bridge—that is, by *not* jumping into the river. Until the law demands that medical evidence shall be taken at every inquest, 50 per cent. of the verdicts recorded by coroners' juries will continue to be absolutely worthless. If there be any one who wishes to shuffle off this mortal coil with a certain amount of distinction, and at the same time to provide handsomely for his surviving relatives, I would advise him to insure his life heavily, to purchase, say in London, a bottle of prussic acid, and to bathe with the bottle—say at Margate. Let him, when fifty yards from the shore, drink the poison and drop the bottle. At the subsequent inquest evidence will certainly be offered that he was seized with cramp, and the jury will as certainly decide that he died from drowning.

From what I have said it will be noted that if I have tried to lay one bogey I have raised another. "At all events," some reader may say, "you admit that there is something which takes the bather unawares and kills him. It matters little whether that something is cramp or apoplexy, whether he dies of drowning or cerebral congestion." True enough; it matters little to him, but it matters a great deal to those who remain. Cramp is a danger that no one can guard against, and to which all are more or less liable. There is reason to believe, however, that most of the bathing accidents attributed to cramp are due to cardiac failure brought on by violent exercise—the most violent possible—in a temperature much below that of the body. The man who has a weak heart is in danger of sudden death if he swims twenty yards. He who has a heart of oak and triple brass, and will observe the simple directions of the Royal Humane Society, may swim as much as he likes without fear.

ELECTRIC SUGAR.

A SCOTCH contemporary gives an interesting account of a process which, if all it tells is true, bids fair to effect a complete revolution in the most important industrial pursuit of the present day—sugar refining. The assistance of electricity, which has already supplanted many other modes of working, has been called in to effect a radical change in this important manufacture. An American professor is in this case, as in most modern discoveries, the originator of the scheme; but his untimely death, if it has not, as it seems, retarded the publication of his investigations, has at any rate given a check for the time to further progress. Professor Henry Friend, of New York, who died on March 10, 1888, was so far secretive as to the new process that he utterly repelled all attempts to facilitate its working by keeping the management of the machinery he utilized entirely in his own hands. Nay, so fearful he appears to have been lest his secret should be wrested from him, that he caused the machinery to be imported piecemeal from various portions of the United States, that nobody but himself should have means of producing sugar by his process. Years of labour and investigation were given to his purpose, his wife only being initiated into the secret of his discovery. In his private working room he ensured solitude for his observation by posting a notice that it was death to cross the threshold: and we are told he took measures to ensure this result to any possible intruder. Here he perfected, step by step, the system of conversion of raw sugar by an instantaneous process. So far instantaneous, that the boiling of sugar was rendered no longer necessary, the whole course of manufacture being worked on the dry system, and therefore it follows the waste in syrup was utterly avoided. Four hours are given as the outside limit for the total conversion of the raw to the refined product—four hours, that is, from the time the machinery is set in motion. "The production once commenced is continuous, so long as the raw material is supplied." After which period (the process once begun), one hour and three-quarters is sufficient to produce the required result. The cost of manufacture is so small in its totality that Professor Friend estimated his net profit at something like £4 per ton of 2,240 lb. The consideration of these figures will, however, suggest the idea that a gradual assimilation of supply to demand will in course of time bring down the returns to a somewhat lower figure.

But the immediate consideration of the results involved in the reduction of any grade of raw sugar to the pure and refined substance, with a loss of one per cent. only on the whole saccharine matter returned (99.90 per cent. of pure sugar), is a sufficiently startling announcement to warrant close investigation. The total cost of manufacture is repeatedly stated to reach only 3*s.* 9*d.* per ton of 2,240 lb., or 80 cents per American ton of 2,000 lb.; and we are assured that the process has been verified by American gentlemen of undoubted integrity. They were not, however, permitted to witness the electric progress, being shown the body of machinery hidden under a covering of sail-cloth. The raw sugar was placed by them in situ, its covering was hermetically sealed, and the refined product was found in its stead within a limit of two hours, and that of the very finest and purest substance. The Professor's secrecy has doubtless ensured hitherto the ignorance of the public on the above process; and his death would probably have again consigned it to oblivion had he not been persuaded to commit all his discoveries to writing. Indeed, the capital for his investigations was supplied to him only on these conditions—that is, with the promise of full discovery of his method, in case of his unforeseen death. The wisdom of his employers has thus been amply demonstrated. The process has now, we learn, been bought up by a firm of Liverpool merchants who had long been in treaty for the secret. If this is true, we may look for very startling results in this important branch of manufacture in the near future.

BRITISH TRADE WITH SIBERIA.

DESPATCH FROM SIR R. MORIER.

SIR R. MORIER'S despatch on the prospect of developing British trade with Siberia is published this morning as a parliamentary paper. It is dated St. Petersburg, June 30, 1888, and begins thus;—"For the last year and a-half I have uninterruptedly laboured to procure the success of an enterprise which, though at present of very modest proportions, and having for its sole basis the intrepidity, energy, skill, and perseverance of a single British ship-master, is yet potential with commercial revolutions the importance of which can hardly be exaggerated, and which, by opening up new channels on a vast scale for British imports and exports, is capable in the course of time of the largest results." Sir Robert Morier describes how, by the gigantic streams of the Obi and the Yenisei, which enter the gulf known as the Kara Sea, vessels can pass up into the very heart of Asia to the frontier of China.

THE DREAM OF CAPTAIN WIGGINS.

The navigation of the Kara Sea had always been supposed to be impossible owing to the ice. A serious attempt was made by Admiral Lütke to establish a regular passage out of the sea some forty years ago, which did not succeed, and the theory was set up that no commercial road could be established across to the west. The question, however, had become one of those nautical puzzles which ambitious navigators dream about and become possessed by. This kind of possession laid a strong hold, also about forty years ago, on the imagination of Joseph Wiggins, a young English mate on board a brig connected with the Archangel trade. Learning that "Kara" in Tartar meant black, he inferred that such a name could never have been given to an ice-bound sea, and that therefore the Kara Sea implied open water. The dream of being the man who should open up this water-way never left him. Having acquired an extraordinary distinction in his profession (he was six years Examiner for the Board of Trade), and been successful in various ventures, he fitted out, as soon as he had money enough of his own, a small Arctic-built steam yacht of about 120 tons, the *Diana*, with which he solved the problem brilliantly in the year 1874, by sailing through the Kara Straits to the mouth, first of the Obi, and afterwards to the estuary of the Yenisei.

THE OPEN GATE OF SIBERIA.

The voyage had no commercial character, and was exclusively devoted to scientific exploration, with the result that certain definite bases were once for all established which demonstrated by actual experience what by a happy intuition Mr. Wiggins had *à priori* laid down—namely, that at certain seasons the Straits, the southern portion of the Kara Sea, including the whole of the coast to both rivers, and the estuaries of those rivers, must be free from ice. These facts were that the Gulf Stream, which in previous voyages he had ascertained beyond a doubt moved eastwards along the coast of Lapland towards Novaia Zemlia, instead of, as formerly supposed, going straight in a north-easterly direction from the White Sea, would not all of it, with straits to pass through, run round to the northern end of the promonotory. Given the entrance of the Gulf Stream through the Straits into the Kara Sea, and the immense volume of water carried down from south to north by the two giant rivers, he concluded that when these two forces had had time to do their summer work the ice would be driven to the north of the gulf and kept there till the winter again established its dominion over the entire region. It was, thanks to this first successful voyage by the *Diana*, and to the principles thus laid down by Mr. Wiggins, that Nordenskjöld was enabled the following year, 1875, to make his first voyage to the Yenisei, and ultimately his celebrated journey through the Behring Straits round the world.

THE "PHŒNIX" IN THE HEART OF ASIA.

Sir Robert Morier then describes the successive voyages of Captain Wiggins, bringing the narrative down to the arrival of the *Phœnix* last October at Yeneseisk. He says:—

On the 9th of October, 1887, for the first time a seagoing steamship carrying her own cargo from across the ocean cast anchor and landed her goods in the heart of Siberia. She was received with enthusiasm by the population, from the Governor downwards, and every kindness and encouragement shown to Captain Wiggins and his crew. Nor can this be wondered at when we reflect that the sentiments evoked could not have been different in kind from those which would be felt by men buried alive suddenly seeing themselves brought into contact with the rest of the world. I had at an early date, and when the company of the Phoenix Merchant Adventurers was first formed, been in communication with the Russian Government as to facilities for the enterprise. These stout-hearted and independent north-countrymen asked for no subsidies, monopolies, or special privileges, nor did Mr. Wiggins claim any recompense for the boon conferred by his self-denying labour and skill on Russia. They only urged that, seeing the enormous risks and difficulties of the venture, they should not be charged duties for the goods they had successfully conveyed through the dangers of the Arctic region. I met with a very warm response on the part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

CONCESSIONS BY THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT.

I will not trouble your lordship with the long negotiations carried on through the Foreign Office, which did everything to assist me with the various Ministries called upon to deal with the matter. I succeeded in getting the whole of the cargo of the *Phœnix* admitted free of duty, and am now in a position to state with great satisfaction that I have obtained a five years' concession for the free entry of certain classes of merchandise up the Yenisei and a similar concession of one year for the Obi.

The greatest difficulty I have had to contend against, however, was obtaining permission for the *Phœnix* to navigate the 2,000 miles of river from Yeniseisk to the mouth of the Yenisei. By Russian law riverain navigation is the exclusive right of Russian subjects under the Russian flag. The whole enterprise, however, would have fallen through if the *Phœnix* had not been allowed to take a return cargo down the river and meet the fine Arctic wooden steamer the *Labrador*, fitted out for this year's venture, and which is to bring a cargo from Newcastle-on-Tyne to exchange at Golchika, at the mouth of the Yenisei, with that from Yeniseisk; for there are as yet no Russian steamers on the river of sufficient draught and power or with the necessary fittings to convey the machinery and other heavy goods which constitute the bulk of the imports. I have only obtained the permission for this year, but I have every hope of its being continued until the Siberians have themselves organized a river service to Golchika.

At Home and Abroad.

The Queen leaves Osborne for Scotland to-morrow evening, and will be the guest of Sir A. Campbell, at Blythswood, near Renfrew, until Friday, when her Majesty will resume her journey, arriving at Balmoral on Saturday. On Wednesday and Friday the Queen will visit the Glasgow International Exhibition, and on Thursday afternoon will drive from Glasgow to Paisley.

The Haj at Mecca began on Friday. Thus far the public health is reported satisfactory, but authentic official reports cannot be made for several days.

Professor Toulo, of the Polytechnique School of Vienna, has been sent to Bulgaria to make a geological survey of the eastern slopes of the Balkans.

On Saturday 300 boiler makers in Messrs. Harland and Wolff's shipbuilding works, Belfast, struck work for an advance of wages.

William Maclure, a Glasgow football player, had his collar bone broken on Saturday while playing in the Clyde team against the Celtic Club.

In to-day's sitting of the French Academy of Sciences M. Pasteur will present a report from Dr. Gamaleia, of Odessa, claiming to have discovered a vaccine for the prevention of Asiatic cholera.

A Russian Councillor of State, M. Ivan Ivinskoy, shot himself on Thursday in a Vienna hotel and succumbed yesterday to his wounds. The cause of his suicide was an incurable illness which had brought him intolerable suffering.

Her Majesty's troopship *Tamar* arrived at Zanzibar on Friday with eight hundred men of the Rifle Brigade for South Africa, and after coaling left yesterday for the Cape.

The summer session of the College of Agriculture, Downton, near Salisbury, ended on Saturday with the usual distribution of honours. Prizes were awarded for superior excellence in both practical and theoretical competitions.

The Austrian Emperor's birthday was on Saturday celebrated with more than usual enthusiasm throughout the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, as well as in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Both in Berlin and St. Petersburg the event was marked by celebrations at the respective Courts.

The new and formidable French engine of destruction, the Lebel gun, was the object of an inspection by M. de Freycinet on Saturday. The Minister of War visited the factory at St. Etienne and examined for himself nearly every detail of the process of manufacture.

Mr. Spurgeon, who for some time past has been recovering from his illness, has again relapsed into weakness. At the Tabernacle yesterday he announced that he was quite unfit for conducting the service, and was obliged to have assistance. He, however, hoped to fulfil his engagements during the week.

The students of the Whitechapel centre of the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching took their last holiday for the season on Saturday in the grounds of Fairseat House, Highgate, thrown open to them by Sir Sydney Waterlow.

Resolutions were unanimously adopted by an influential meeting at Stafford on Saturday, urging the National Rifle Association to adopt Cannock Chase as the new Wimbledon, and enumerating the various advantages of that site.

The Governor of Kirkdale Gaol has received a communication from the Home Secretary reprieving the condemned seaman, Charles Arthur, pending the further pleasure of her Majesty. Arthur murdered Captain Bailey, of the *Dovenby Hall*, while the latter was asleep in his bunk.

The dead body of Thomas Brannigan, a pensioner, who resided in Wallace-street, Glasgow, was discovered in his bed on Saturday night, the skull being smashed in as if with a hammer. Brannigan's wife and son have been arrested on suspicion.

An inquest was held at Charing-cross Hospital on Saturday as to the death of Lewis M'Donald, a carpenter, who died on Wednesday last, from injuries received at the Royal College of Surgeons by the fall of an ornamental cornice whilst he was at work. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

On Saturday evening there died suddenly, of heart complaint, Hagopian Takwar Pasha, the Egyptian administrator of State railways. The deceased was an Armenian, a great personal friend of Nubar, and a man of undoubted ability. His English and French colleagues being both absent on leave, this Board is left without a single representative in Egypt.

Mold railway station was broken into early on Saturday morning by burglars. The booking-office was successfully forced, and a considerable quantity of jewellery carried off. It is supposed to have been done by the same gang that successfully cleared out Saltney and Dunham stations, near Chester.

A large number of members of the Association of Firemen of the United Kingdom assembled at Dublin on Saturday, where the half-yearly meeting was held. It was decided to form a Fire Brigade Benevolent Fund. The firemen were entertained to luncheon at the Central Fire Station, and to dinner at the Mansion House in the evening.

At the Marlborough-street police-court, on Saturday, Seymour Lloyd, a draper's assistant, was charged with being concerned with John Lavers, who is in custody, in stealing and receiving twelve sealskin jackets, of the value of £180, the property of Mr. Thomas Jay, of Regent-street. The accused was remanded on bail, time being given for him to bring rebutting evidence.

The Engineer Volunteers, consisting of detachments from Aberdeen, Glasgow, Newcastle, Sheffield, Liverpool, and the metropolis, proceeded on Saturday to form the twelfth annual encampment at Chatham, where they will receive instruction during the next fortnight in throwing up redoubts, building case-mates, and forming bivouacs and huts, at the hands of the officer and non-commissioned officer instructors of the Royal Engineers.

At the Clerkenwell police-court on Saturday a cabman named Daniel Pratley was sent to prison for four months, with hard labour, for neglecting to provide adequate food and clothing for his six children, whereby their health had been seriously impaired. When they were discovered by the relieving officer the children were in a frightful condition, and had to be at once conveyed to the workhouse.

An important movement has been instituted among Cheshire dairy farmers, by Mr. Gilbert Murray, agent of Lord Harrington. Believing that a factory conducted on co-operative principles, and turning out cheese and butter of uniform quality, would secure higher prices than by individual enterprise, Mr. Murray is establishing one to which farmers on the estate can consign milk. Fixed payment will be made for the milk, and the profits are to be divided, after meeting all outgoings.

THE FRANCO-ITALIAN DISPUTE ABOUT MASSOWAH.

SIGNOR CRISPI'S REPLY TO M. GOBLET'S NOTE.

Signor Crispi has replied to M. Goblet's note on the Massowah difficulty. The Italian Premier says his Government will endeavour to set aside any argument which might prolong, without any practical result, a discussion which the two Governments should be equally anxious to terminate. The Note continues by declaring the Italian Government will not revert to the relation of the occurrences which brought about the occupation of Massowah, since the account of those events could not and has not been contested. Signor Crispi then refutes the assertion that it was necessary to notify the occupation to the Powers, the occupation being anterior to the Conference of Berlin, which prescribed a notification. The Note discusses the question of the capitulations, and establishes that when a country where the capitulations exist passes under the administration of a Christian and civilized Power, without a change of sovereignty, as was the case in Bosnia, Cyprus, and Tunis, the capitulations generally cease only after an accord between the Power taking possession and the other nations, but that the capitulations cease *ipso facto* when the countries, like Algeria, Dobrudscha, and the territory ceded to Russia in virtue of the Treaty of Berlin, pass not only under the administration but under the full authority of a Christian and civilized Power. Signor Crispi develops a series of judicial arguments in favour of this doctrine.

Signor Crispi proceeds to prove that the French have no interests at Massowah, and that France intervened in favour of the Greeks simply to provoke the present incident. Then he expounds in a fresh enumeration the facts and reasons which rendered the measures taken against the Greeks necessary, and caused the French Agent to be informed that he would no longer be recognized as such, since, before war broke out and during the hostilities, he has cultivated intimate political relations with the Negus and the Abyssinian chiefs on the frontier. The Note concludes that there yet remains in the French Note the comminatory allusion to an inadmissible comparison between two situations which are in no way similar, and which would lead to a false application, and one contrary to the rights of nations, of a logical precept consecrated by custom. The Powers, having under their eyes all the elements of discussion, will know who is in the wrong—if it is the power which enforces respect of law while ensuring public order, or the Power which excites a calm population to the contempt of the law and defies the authority of the established Powers. Most of the Powers have already pronounced, and the Italian Government is highly satisfied at having brought the incident to their knowledge. It is now desirous to consider it as closed, and to persevere in peace in the line of conduct which it has traced out for itself—to defend to the end in the Red Sea the interests it has taken under its guard, and which it believes to be those of justice, right, and civilization.

THE TROUBLE IN ZULULAND.

A Pietermaritzburg telegram says:—Messengers from Ceza Bush report that the district is deserted, and that the huts have been burned. They state that Usutu people are returning to their kraals and submitting to the authorities, and that the feeling generally throughout the country is much quieter. It is reported that Dinizulu and Undabuko are in Swaziland. Umbandine has already declared his readiness to surrender. General Smyth and his staff will proceed to Etshowe shortly.

THE GERMAN EXPEDITION TO EMIN PASHA.

A circular asking for contributions in aid of the German expedition for the relief of Emin Pasha is being distributed in Berlin by the provisional committee. Should the expedition succeed in reaching Emin, it is intended to establish, if possible, a line of stations to form a commercial road from the lakes eastward, and to permanently maintain this highway. A German African Lakes Company is to be formed for the purpose. The Emperor William expressed to the members of the committee, among whom is Lieutenant Wissmann, his warm sympathy with the enterprise.

A Cairo telegram says:—The locality mentioned by the pilgrims from Sokoto who recently arrived at Suakin as the place where they fell in with a force of white men is Bornu or Bargo, and it is therefore considered probable that the body of white men was an exploring party under a French leader.

THE FISHERIES TREATY.

The New York correspondent of the *Standard* writes:—As the crisis of the Fisheries Treaty approaches, some speculation arises as to the fate of the *modus vivendi*. A telegram from Ottawa asserts that the dominion will terminate the *modus*, if the treaty be rejected. The *New York Times* takes the more advanced ground that the *modus vivendi* fails with the treaty. In either case, and whether the treaty be rejected or withdrawn to escape an adverse vote—a two-thirds vote in its favour being admittedly impossible—the prospect is that of a return to relations between Great Britain and the United States, which will be strained to the utmost point.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS IN ITALY.

Telegrams received from Genoa state that on Saturday evening several earthquake shocks were felt at Diano Marina, without causing any damage. The entire population, however, fled in the greatest panic towards the sea coast. It will be remembered that Diano Marina was the centre of the earthquake which destroyed so many lives last year.

A WINTER CAMPAIGN IN SIKKIM.

According to a Calcutta telegram, orders have been issued for the supply of warm clothing to the British troops in Sikkim, thus indicating the possibility of a winter campaign. Some British spies were fired upon by the enemy on Saturday morning. Another company of the 2nd Battalion of the Derbyshire Regiment has arrived at Gnatong.

GREAT FIRE AT TOULON.

Great excitement prevails at Toulon in consequence of the destruction by fire on Saturday of the stores of hay and forage of the War and Navy Departments. The alarm was promptly given, but a high wind helped the flames, and made it impossible to do more than save the neighbouring buildings. Last week it seems that several acres of wood were set alight and burned down by an unknown hand. The authorities are activity seeking for the incendiaries.

The popularity of FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA is rapidly increasing, and where once tried its delicious flavour and agreeable qualities secure for it a permanent place in the household dietary. Highly recommended, by many eminent physicians, for young children and delicate persons to whom tea is injurious. Ask your Grocer for a sample and book of Testimonials.

A FIGHT BETWEEN A VICAR AND A SEXTON.

DISGRACEFUL SCENE IN A CHURCHYARD.

On Saturday the Bullingdon division bench of magistrates had before them a charge of assault against the Rev. George Moore, vicar of Cowley, near Oxford, the complainant being a young man named Percy Matthias Lee, son of the sexton of the parish. Lee was also summoned for assaulting the vicar. Lee stated that on the previous Monday evening there had been a funeral in the churchyard, and that he and a man named Johnson shortly afterwards proceeded to fill in the grave. The vicar, who was wearing his cassock, came up and found fault with Lee for throwing some stones into the grave with the sand, and the complainant replied that the two stones which he had seen go in fell in by accident. The vicar was then alleged to have called Lee a scoundrel and a scamp, and to have ordered both out of the churchyard. Johnson left, and after telling Lee that if he did not go he would put him out the vicar, according to the complainant, struck him on the forehead, knocking his hat off, and followed that up by two blows behind the ear, one of which knocked him down. Lee told the vicar that he wanted no more of that, and that he should act in self-defence. Thereupon Mr. Moore said he would give him a beastly thrashing, and made a rush at him. They had a scuffle, and both fell, the vicar being underneath. Mr. Moore called to his butler, and they got up. They had no sooner regained their legs than the vicar again rushed at Lee, and after another scuffle they again fell. On getting up the vicar went at him again, knocked him down, and sat on Lee's head. Lee pushed the vicar away, and then asked him if he intended to keep the game on, and Mr. Moore replied that he would give complainant a beastly thrashing. They fought three rounds, after which the vicar was alleged to have picked up a shovel, with which he aimed a blow at Lee, whose finger was cut in warding off the implement. Lee picked up the spade in self-defence and poked the vicar in the ribs with it, and eventually he got away, leaving the grave not filled up. In cross-examination, Lee said that the butler stood by while they fought the three rounds. After he had knocked the vicar down once the butler stood between them to give his master time. In the third round the vicar struck him in the mouth, and after the skirmish he said, "Have you done?" Mr. Moore replied that he had had enough. The complainant was corroborated as to the first part of the disturbance by Johnson. The vicar was sworn, and gave an emphatic denial to the statement made by Lee. He declared that he did not strike Lee on the forehead or behind the ear; that he did not rush at him three times; and that three rounds were not fought. He did not take up a shovel and strike at Lee with it, but Lee hit him with the handle end of a spade, because he complained of his throwing a lot of stones into the grave. He had to call his butler to his assistance when they were on the ground, Lee being uppermost. The butler, Edgington, and two boys named James Davis and Charles Alder, gave evidence in corroboration of Mr. Moore's evidence. Eventually the bench decided to dismiss both summonses.

M. ZOLA ON MARRIAGE.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* having been commissioned by that journal to secure M. Zola's views on the question "Is Marriage a Failure?" wrote to the Apostle of Naturalism asking his opinion, and received the following reply:—

I have no opinion on this question of marriage which you bring before me. Questions relating to humanity in its passions have always interested me more than social ones. To study man is the part of the Writer, and I leave to the Legislator the duty of looking after the Code.

The correspondent subsequently interviewed the novelist, and the following conversation is reported to have taken place:—

"I confess," said M. Zola, "that this question of marriage does not interest me keenly. Dumas or Renan, or even Daudet, might find it to their tastes. Dumas particularly has treated the marriage question at length. For my part, if you want my opinion on marriage from the French point of view, it is this—so far as France is concerned I think that marriage is like the Church—an old and faulty institution. It will have to go on until something better be found to replace it."

"What do you think, M. Zola, of the Free Love principle as advocated by Mrs. Caird in opposition to the present mode of marrying two people together 'for bettter for worse,' till death do us part, and so on?"

"Well, I think, that the *collage* system, as we call it in France, may be every bit as good as matrimony, provided the parties agree. There are cases of French couples who have carried on *collage* for thirty years, and have been as united as if in the bonds of wedlock. It all depends on the people themselves."

M. Zola went on to say that the divorce system, which is now in working order in France, was being greatly patronized by those who did not find the yoke of matrimony agreeable. "But in any case, marriage as at present constituted in France is a failure and a grievance. So, too, is everything in our modern society. We are all going to universal rottenness. I have already touched upon the subject of French marriages in my book 'Pot-Bouille,' but, as I have said in my letter, it is not my province to provide remedies. I and my friends are Artists, Romanciers, Realists, or 'Naturalists,' whatever term you like, and we paint things as we see them in all their hideous ugliness and filth. We minutely describe the social ulcers, fungi, and *ordures*, and we leave to the legislator the task of sweeping them away. That is all I have to say on the question!"

CONGRESS OF COMMERCIAL LAW.

The International Congress of Commercial Law, which held its first meeting at Antwerp in 1885, will meet at Brussels on the 30th of next month under the presidency of Baron Lambermont, Minister of State and Secretary-General of the Belgian Foreign Office. Its principal task will be the elaboration, on the bases adopted in the first session, of a project of international legislation in the matter of bills of exchange and maritime law. The adhesions to the Congress received from foreign Governments and eminent specialists are most satisfactory.

A SAVINGS BANK IN DIFFICULTIES.

At a meeting of the managers of this institution, recently held, a letter was read, signed by the Duke of Grafton, the Marquis of Northampton, and Earl Spencer, patrons and presidents of the bank, calling the attention of the managers to the fact that the business of the bank was being carried on at a loss; that the expenses during the last three years had exceeded the income; and that the expenses of the bank were increasing, while the business was decreasing. The letter stated that the patrons had caused an examination of the accounts to be made. They felt satisfied the bank was solvent, but they considered it was not justifiable to carry it on at a loss, and they recommended that the business should be transferred to the Post Office. A discussion ensued, and ultimately a resolution to continue the business of the bank was carried by a large majority. Notice was then given on the part of the patrons that they all resigned their positions

NOTICE.

A Story of Modern Life, by Mr. Grant Allen, entitled "Dr. Palliser's Patient," is commenced in the PALL MALL GAZETTE *to-day, and will run from day to day until completed on Tuesday, August 28.*

FOURTH EDITION.

BOULANGER'S STAR IN THE ASCENDANT.

THE RESULT OF YESTERDAY'S ELECTIONS.

Elections were held yesterday in the Nord, the Somme, and the Charente-Inférieure, General Boulanger being a candidate in all three departments. The vacancy in the Somme was caused by the death of M. Deberly a Reactionary, who in 1885 polled 67,000 votes, the Reactionaries by a very narrow majority carrying six seats out of eight. The vacancy in the Charente-Inférieure was due to the death of Baron Vast-Vimeux, a Bonapartist who obtained 62,000 votes. In the Nord two seats had to be filled up—namely, that vacated by General Boulanger and that of the late M. Plichon, a Bonapartist, who in 1885 polled 162,000 votes.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

PARIS, August 20, 3 A.M.—The final result of yesterday's elections are now known. In the department of the Somme General Boulanger has been elected by 76,094 votes, M. Bernot receiving 41,371. In the Charente-Inférieure the General received 57,484 votes and M. Lair 42,416; while in the Nord he was also successful, polling 130,152 against M. Koechlin 126,567, M. Desmoutiers 97,409, M. Moreau 95,023, M. Delcourt 6,347, and M. Delcluze 5,837 votes.

A telegram from Amiens states that the streets of that place were thronged with people during the whole evening, who made demonstrations and were very tumultuous. The state of things became worse as the evening progressed, and shortly after midnight the aspect was so serious that it was found necessary to call out a body of infantry, who charged the mob with fixed bayonets, and thus cleared the Rue des Trois Cailloux.

At Lille there were disturbances during the evening between the partisans and opponents of General Boulanger. Groups of persons remained on the Grande Place till two o'clock this morning, when they were dispersed by the police. Fourteen arrests were made.

PARIS, August 20.—Most of the Republican newspapers this morning declare that General Boulanger was elected yesterday by the Reactionaries, who had not the courage to bring forward candidates of their own. The *République Francais* holds the Intransigeant Radicals responsible for the General's success. The Conservative journals state that the vote was given against the Republic.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

RUSSIA'S ATTITUDE ON THE MASSOWAH QUESTION.

ST. PETERSBURG, August 20.—In well-informed quarters it is stated that the last Italian Note concerning Massowah will in no way affect Russia's attitude, inasmuch as the Russian Government in this matter conforms entirely to the views of Turkey, which, as the party whose interests are prejudiced, it regards as alone competent to declare the incident closed.

SIGNOR CRISPI AND PRINCE BISMARCK.

ROME, August 20.—Signor Crispi, who left here yesterday, is expected to reach Frankfort this evening, where he will remain for the night, proceeding afterwards to visit Prince Bismarck.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

MUNICH, August 20.—The Princess of Wales arrived here shortly after eight this morning, and after breakfasting proceeded at nine o'clock for Gmunden.

THE UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, August 20.—A large armed band of Sioux Indians has left the Pine Ridge Agency, Dakota, in defiance of orders. Troops are now pursuing them.

LORD HARTINGTON COMMENDS MR. CHAMBERLAIN, JUN.

Lord Hartington has written the following letter to Mr. Craig-Brown in reference to Mr. Austen Chamberlain's candidature for the Border Burghs :—

"Bolton Abbey, Skipton, August 17, 1888.

"Dear Sir,—I am extremely glad to hear that the Liberal Unionist Association of Selkirk has, in concert with the other burghs of the constituency, adopted Mr. Austen Chamberlain as candidate for the Border Burghs in the event of an election. From my acquaintance with Mr. Austen Chamberlain, I feel convinced that he will fully justify the selection which you have made, and that he will deserve the confidence which no doubt has been inspired by the courageous political conduct of his father, and by the conspicuous service which the latter has rendered to the Unionist cause.—I remain yours sincerely, HARTINGTON."

A MEMORIAL OF FRANK HOLL.

A movement is on foot to set up in London a fitting memorial of the late Frank Holl. The prompt and unanimous response the suggestion met with, says a London correspondent, testifies to the warm esteem in which the late artist was held by those who had the fullest opportunities of knowing him. Among the gentlemen who have intimated their desire to be associated with the movement are Mr. Gladstone, Earl Spencer, the Earl of Rosebery, the Duke of Cleveland, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Earl Granville, Viscount Cranbrook, Lord Stalbridge, Lord Winmarleigh, Viscount Wolseley, Lord Harlech, Mr. Chamberlain, Lord Crewe, Viscount Hampden, the Attorney-General, Sir Henry Rawlinson, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, Sir John Rose, Mr. W. Agnew, Lord Brassey, Sir Frederick Leighton, Sir J. E. Millais, Sir J. Linton, Sir Thomas Farrer, Mr. Humphrey Ward, Sir J. S. Robinson, Mr. Frank Burnand, Mr. Tenniel, Mr. Lucy, Sir Robert Rawlinson, Sir Charles Tennant, Sir William Jenner, Mr. John Bright, Mr. Woodall, Sir George Trevelyan, Mr. W. S. Gilbert, and Mr. Henry Doyle. Dean Church has sanctioned the placing of the memorial in the crypt of St. Paul's, where Sir Joshua Reynolds lies buried. Mr. William Agnew is acting as honorary secretary in the matter.

A BLACK-COUNTRY DEPUTATION AT HAWARDEN.

PRESENTATION OF "THE GLADSTONE VASE."

This morning two long excursion trains arrived shortly after ten o'clock at Broughton Hall station, on the Chester, Mold, and Denbigh Railway, filled with Liberals from Burslem, Hanley, Longton, and the Potteries districts of Staffordshire, for the purpose of presenting Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden Castle with a handsome vase, locally styled "the Gladstone Vase," typical of the art industries of the district. Mr. Woodall, M.P., is accompanying the party. At an early hour this morning rain was falling in torrents at Hawarden, but towards ten o'clock it cleared up. The roads, however, were in a dreadful condition, and the excursionists had a muddy tramp of three and a half miles from the railway station to the Castle. Only those who contributed towards the cost of the vase were admitted to the presentation.

The "Gladstone Vase" is grey, inclining to heliotrope in colour, and has a deep frieze of white figures on a greenish black ground running round the centre, and is executed in the process called pâte-sur-pâte. In the centre is a symbolical figure of Liberty seated on a dais, and holding in one hand the scales of justice, and in the other a broken chain. On the right of Liberty is Homer, and on the left Dante. On the left are figures of a Vestal in a pleading attitude, and a Historian recording the deeds done in the name of freedom. On the back of the vase in the centre is a figure of St. George, supported on the one side by William Wallace, and on the other by Brian Boru. There are figures of Ireland, with bowed head, and Poland, with mournful look and hair unbound. There are also figures of dancing children and a maiden bringing offerings of flowers, emblematical of the joyous and innocent liberty of childhood. Above and below the frieze is an ornamental pattern in the Neo-Greek style, executed in quiet colours, and delicately touched with gold. The handles are solid gold, with spiral spray of laurel raised and chased, running round. The pedestal, which is the same colour as the vase, bears the following inscription: "Designed and executed at Burslem, for a few Liberals of that town, and presented by them to Mr. Gladstone as a slight expression of their admiration, affection, and gratitude, 1888."

MR. PARNELL'S ACTION AGAINST THE "TIMES."

"The statement that Mr. Parnell's action in the Scotch courts will be ousted for want of jurisdiction," says the *Freeman's Journal*, "is utterly unfounded, as it is known at the date of the arrestment that the agents owed money to the *Times*. Mr. Parnell," it adds, "would have brought his action in Edinburgh subsequent to the publication of the proceedings in 'O'Donnell *v.* Walter' had it not been for the promise of Mr. Smith to grant a Royal Commission. When the scope of the Commission was indefinitely extended, and the allegations and charges against Mr. Parnell and his colleagues thrust into the background, the question of an action was again considered; but it was deemed proper to await the result of proceedings in Committee. When, however, the reckless action of Government in the concluding stages of Committee had made it evident that they had become thorough partisans of the *Times*, it was felt that the institution of an action was the only course open to obtain speedy justice. It was, however, decided that the determination to take legal proceedings should not be disclosed until the Bill was through the House of Lords, as otherwise the undisguised partizanhip of the Government would have compelled them to insert provisions indemnifying the *Times* against any action."

THE PARNEEL COMMISSION.—INQUIRY TO BE RESTRICTED.

According to the *Freeman's Journal*, Mr. George Lewis, acting on behalf of Mr. Parnell and his colleagues, has had an interview by appointment with the Commissioners, at which he made application for the particulars upon which the *Times* relies. The *Freeman* adds that it has every reason to believe that the *Times* and its supporters will "find themselves bitterly mistaken in supposing that the Commission will allow themselves to be dragged hither and thither into the extended field of investigation into which the *Times* is seeking to tempt them, but they will confine themselves to definite charges and allegations capable of proof and capable of refutation."

"THE FORGED LETTERS:" COMPLETELY UPSET.

Our contemporary adds: "We are in a position to state that the clearest and most complete case on the part of Mr. Parnell, Mr. Campbell, and Mr. Egan, in disproof of the forged letters received by the Attorney-General at the recent trial of 'O'Donnell *v.* Walter,' will be made. The chain of evidence which is being worked up against the chief conspirators is of the most extraordinary and perfect character. The investigation into the matter was only commenced about a fortnight ago, and already the most complete proofs have been obtained against the persons implicated. We believe that Mr. Walter and Mr. Buckle will profess entire ignorance of the source of these letters, or from whom they were obtained, and will refuse to give any evidence before the Commission, with the probable result to them of committal for contempt. It is doubtful, however, whether the Commission will hold Messrs. Walter and Buckle free from responsibility or accept their disclaimer of want of knowledge. The greatest alarm is felt in influential Government circles, as it has leaked out that the *Times* has discovered that they have been imposed upon, and that, taken in front by the Royal Commission and in flank by the Edinburgh action, they are in abject despair as to their prospects."

ARCHBISHOP WALSH AND MR. PARNELL.

Dr. Walsh, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, writes to the *Freeman's Journal*, enclosing £50 towards the sum of Mr. Parnell's costs. He says the subscription that has been opened will stand as an expression of confidence in Mr. Parnell as a wise political leader of the Irish people, and also of sympathy with him in the patient dignity with which he has, so long as it was prudent, silently submitted to the shameful slanders of his political opponents.

SUMMONSES AGAINST THE EARL OF SHREWSBURY.

Several workmen attended at the Wandsworth police-court to-day, and applied to the magistrate for summonses against the Earl of Shrewsbury for the recovery of wages due to them. One of the men acted as spokesman, and said they were employed by his lordship at his cab-works in Bridge-road, Battersea. When the business was formed into a limited company he and several of the other men were suspended, and on Saturday they received notice to quit their employment, getting only a week's wages. Mr. Plowden: Was there any agreement? The applicant: We were weekly servants. His lordship is indebted to us for several weeks' salary. Mr. Plowden: You can have the summonses.

The Bishop of St. Albans has so far recovered from his illness that he was able to leave his bedroom yesterday, for the first time.

ARTHUR GUINNESS, SON, AND CO. (LIMITED).

The shareholders of the above company held their ordinary general meeting at the Cannon-street Hotel this afternoon, under the presidency of Sir E. C. Guinness. The report showed that there had been a substantial increase in the trade, the net profit, after making provision for bad debts, amounting to £[illegible]0,930. The directors recommended a dividend of 8 per cent., making with the interim dividend already paid 15 per cent. for the year.

The chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, commenced by expressing regret at the severe loss which the company and the board had sustained by the death of Lord Wolverton, one of the directors, whose place had been filled by Mr. John Baring. Turning to the report and accounts, the chairman congratulated the shareholders on the year's trading. When he last addressed them he felt it his duty to remind them of the uncertainty which must needs attach to trading operations such as those in which they were engaged. His warning pointed to the effect which a bad harvest or inclement season would have upon their trade, but he was glad to say that in the past year they had not suffered materially in spite of rather higher prices for hops and rather less productive malt than in the previous twelve months. The business had increased so largely since the formation of the company, and still showed such signs of expansion, that the directors had been constrained to set about the work of extension so that they might meet more easily the requirements of the trade. The new malt store had now been completed with the exception of some of the screening machinery, and was in use. Machinery for the drying of grains had been erected, and was in full working order. The directors had decided to add substantially both to the reserve and the depreciation funds, which now stood at £350,000. and £50,000 respectively In conclusion, he said that although the prospects before them were generally encouraging it was again his duty to impress upon them that they could not see very far ahead. The extraordinary wetness of the season would certainiy retard, if it did not materially injure the harvest both of barley and of hops. They were more than ever impressed with the importance of continuing to build up a substantial reserve as an insurance against future contingencies, and they had as a further measure of precaution determined to carry forward so large an amount as £49,000. That enabled them to face the fortunes of the coming season with a sense of comparative security.

Viscount Castlerosse seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

NARROW ESCAPE OF "MABON," M.P.

At Builth Hills on Saturday, Mr. William Abraham, M.P. (otherwise the Bard "Mabon") had a narrow escape from drowning while boating on the Wye. It appears that the hon. member was rowing with a companion, when the boat capsized.

BROWNING AND CARLYLE.

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* writes:—"I remember the poet Browning saying how helpful Carlyle was to him when he was a young man, and he has still a great admiration for the illustrious writer. The public will be pleased to learn that Mr. Browning has entrusted to Mr. Norton, for the purpose of publication, some letters that passed between Carlyle and himself more than fifty years ago. A portion of this correspondence, which is of great interest, will shortly appear in the second series of the "Letters of Thomas Carlyle," which cover the period from 1826 to 1835.

MR. BRADLAUGH'S REPLY TO HIS CRITICS.

Mr. Bradlaugh has issued a reply to the criticisms which have been passed upon him in the press in connection with his conduct of the Oaths Bill. It is a studiously moderate article. Mr. Bradlaugh thus sums up his reply: "It is not true that the religious man "gets nothing' by my bill. It is not true that I have consented to 'the imposition of a new test.' It is not true that any human being, either with or without religion, will, if my bill passes, be 'still left outside' Parliament if he be willing to make affirmation or to swear his allegiance. If he affirms, he is permitted to do so 'without question;' if he swears, his oath can never afterwards be challenged."

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR AT CAMDEN-TOWN.

Yesterday afternoon the police made a discovery in Camden-town which at present is involved in much mystery. It appears that between three and four o'clock the attention of an officer was called to a house which has recently been used as a dispensary, situated at 277, High-street, and on entering and ascending to the top rooms he found two men, who had evidently been subjected to much brutality, their heads being dreadfully wounded. Having obtained assistance the men were conveyed to Kentish-town Hospital, where the house-surgeon found that one of them, a young man named Edward Young, residing at 26, Grange-road, Chalk-farm, had received such dangerous injuries to the head as to render him unconscious. Having discovered the head to be much injured, besides a large wound on the left side, he ordered the man to be put to bed. The other man, Edward Hope, residing at 277, High-street, Camden-town, was not so dangerously injured, and after having his head enveloped in bandages he was taken charge of by the police and conveyed to the Albany-street police station. As to how the men received their injuries, the police have, so far, failed to ascertain. The wounds received by Young are such, it is stated, as could only be inflicted by a heavy instrument. He was still unconscious last evening, and in a dangerous condition.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY. BAROMETER.

South England (with London and Channel).—Southerly winds, light to moderate; dull, close, some rain.

SUN Rises 4h. 56 m.
" Sets 7 h. 10 m.
MOON—Full M. ○
21st, 4 h. 20 m. Aft.

Saturday Noon to-day

Noon to-day Saturday

HIGH WATER London Bridge.
Morn. 0 h. 34 m.
After. 1 h. 1 m.

WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, August 20, 1883.—Dull, overcast; varying airs.
Readings by NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-past One.

HOME AND AMERICAN RAILWAYS FIRM.—FOREIGN STOCKS NEGLECTED.

The Money Market has opened much the same as it closed last week, with a fairly plentiful supply of loanable capital, a small demand, and a limited discount inquiry. There is no disposition to allow rates to fall, however, as although in addition to the sum of over £100,000 received at the Bank of England on Saturday a further amount of about half a million is expected to be sent in this week. The demand for Buenos Ayres is still hanging over the market, and is thought likely to revive at the end of the month. Short loans are freely obtainable at 1½ per cent., while the discount rate for three months' bank paper is still called 2⅝ to 2¾ per cent., with an indisposition to work at the lower figure. To-morrow a considerable amount of money will change hands in connection with instalments falling due on various new issues aggregating something like two millions and a half.

Although there has been no particular improvement in the volume of business passing on the Stock Exchange there is a decidedly better tendency, and the majority of the changes are now to higher quotations. Home Government Funds and other high-class stocks of an investment character are neglected, and are without movement of interest; but in the Home Railway market there has been a strong demand for some descriptions, notably the Deferred stocks of the southern lines and the securities of the Scotch companies, especially Caledonian. In other instances the changes, though all favourable, are slight. Foreign Government Bonds in the absence of fresh political development ment are quiet, and the variations are insignificant both as regards European descriptions and South American issues. The latter, however, are firm, on the decline in the premium on gold at Buenos Ayres. American Railroads have been in demand, the principal inquiry having been for Lake Shore shares and Denver Preference, the latter on the announcement respecting the placing of the three million dols improvement mortgage bonds. Grand Trunk stocks are receiving but a small share of attention, while Mexican Railway issues have been bought. Mining shares are without feature of interest, and Miscellaneous markets are inactive.

The following are the latest changes compared with Saturday's closing:—

In Home Railways.—*Improved*: Caledonian ⅝, Brighton Deferred ½, North British, North Eastern, and South Eastern Deferred ¼, Chatham Preference ¼, the Ordinary ⅛, Great Eastern, North Western, and Midland ⅛.

Among Foreign Stocks.—*Advanced*: Buenos Ayres Cedulas ¼, Turkish 1871 ¼, Groups 3 and 4 1-16, Hungarian Gold and Portuguese ⅛. *Declined*: Egyptian Unified 1-16, and Greek 1881 ¼.

American Railroads.—*Improved*: Denver Preference ⅞, the Ordinary ¼, Lake Shore ⅝, Louisville and Nashville and Norfolk and Western Preference ⅜, Central Pacific, New York Central, Milwaukee and St. Paul, Erie Second Mortgage, Pennsylvania shares, and Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ¼, Mexican Central bonds ¼, Wabash Mortgage ¼, New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio First Mortgage and Northern Pacific Preference ⅛. *Fallen*: Illinois Central ½, Missouri, Kansas, Texas and Philadelphia and Reading shares ¼, Union Pacific and Wabash Preference ⅛.

As regards Canadian and Foreign Railways.—*Risen*: Canada Pacific ⅜, Mexican First Preference ¼, the Ordinary and Second Preference ⅛, Lombardo Venetian ¼, and Grand Trunk Guaranteed ⅛. *Lower*: Grand Trunk Second Preference ⅛.

Spratt's shares are up ½, and Bryant and May ⅛, but Namaqua, Allsopp's, and Hudson's Bay are down ⅛.

From the accounts of the Sun Life Assurance Society for the year ending Midsummer last it appears that the income from premiums amounted to £183,543, against £170,384 in the previous year, being an increase of £13,159; and the receipts from interest to £89,524, against £86,767. The extraordinary bonuses declared at the recent quinquennial division of profits have been largely taken advantage of by policyholders who have exercised their options for cash to the extent of upwards of £72,000. The society also transacted the largest amount of new business completed in any one year during its existence, 1,457 new policies having been issued, assuring £706,851 and yielding in premiums £25,788.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—Although there has been a better nquiury only a limited business has resulted. Sales, 7,000. Prices unchanged. Futures are quiet without change.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols	100⅛	⅜
New Consols 2¾	99¼	⅜
Reduced 3 p. c.	100¼	1⅜
Local Loan Stock	103¼	¾
New 2½ per. Cent.	95¼	6¼
India 3½ per Cent.	105½	6
Do. 4½ p. c. Rus	69⅝	⅞
Egyptian Guar.	102	½
Met. Bd. Wks. 5½	113	½
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip.	103⅛	4
Birmingham Crp. Stk.	109¼	10¼
Liverpool	111¼	¼
FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentine 6 p. c.	103	5
Do. Hard Dols	69¼	¾
Do. Treasury	98	9
Austrian Gold	90	2
Do. Silver	66	8
Brazilian 1875	102½	3½
B. Ayres 6 p. c.	102	4
Do. Cedulas I.	62	⅛
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1885	101	2
Costa Rica A.	90	1
Do. B.	88⅝	9½
Egypt. State Dom.	101½	2
Do. Unified	84	⅛
Do. Preference	102½	¾
Do. Daira Sanier	79	¼
French 3 p.c. Rnts	82¼	¾
Do. 4½ p.c. Rnts.	103½	4¼
Greek 5 p.c. 1881	73½	¾
Hung. Gold Rentes	82⅛	⅞
Italian	95¼	½
Mexican Converted	39¼	⅞
Peruvian 5 p.c. 72	13⅜	⅛
Do. 6 p.c.	15	⅛
Portuguese	64⅛	⅜
Russian 1873	97⅞	8⅛
Spanish 4 p. c.	72⅞	3⅛
Turkish 1854	99	101
Group 1	24¼	¾
Group 2	14⅜	15⅛
Groups 3 and 4	14⅜	⅞
4½ p. c. 1871	86	½
5 p. c. Defence	96	½
5 p. c. Priority	82	4
Uruguay Unified	72¼	3
Virginia Funded	43	4
U.S. 4½ p.c.	107½	8½
BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Caledonian	105⅛	⅝
Great Eastern	67¼	8
Great Northern	118½	19⅛
Ditto A	102	3
Great Western	144½	¾
Hull and Barnsley	29½	30
Lanc. and York	118	15
Brighton (Ordinary)	140	2
Do. A	124¼	⅝
Chatham (Ordinary)	22¼	1⅛
Do. Preference	100½	1½
North Western	170¼	⅛
South Western	136	7
Manchester & Shef.	68	70
Do. A.	35½	6
Met. Consolidated	72½	3
Do. Land Stock	70½	1½
Do. District	33¼	¼
Midland	132⅜	⅞
North British	115⅛	⅜
North Eastern	153⅜	⅜
North Stafford	112	14
South Eastern	132	4
Do. Deferred	105¼	6
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	58⅞	9½
Can. Pacific Shares	35	½
Chic. Mil. and St. P	72½	¾
Denver & R. Grande	19½	¾
Do. Pref.	52½	¾
Illinois Shares	122	3
Lake Shore	97⅛	¼
Ohio & Mississippi	23	½
Louis. and Nash	60¼	½
Mex. Cen. Bonds	69	⅛
Do. Nat "A"	65⅛	¼
Miss. Kan. & Texas	13⅛	14
N. Y. Cen. Shares	109½	10
New York Ontario	16⅛	¼
Erie Shares	27¼	8
Do. Sec. Mort.	100¼	¼
Norfolk & West. Pre	51	¼
N. Y. P. & O. 1st Mt	37½	8
North. Pacific Pref	57¼	8
Pennsylvania Sh.	55⅛	⅛
Phil. and Read. Sh	25¾	¼
Union Pacific Shares	60¼	1
Wabash Preferred	27	½
Do. Gen. Mort.	44½	5
Grand Trunk Sh.	13½	⅜
Do. First Pref.	59⅛	¾
Do. Second Pref	41¼	¾
Do. Third Pref.	22⅛	3⅛
Do. Guaranteed	67¼	½
Mexican Ordinary	46½	¾
Do First Pref	119½	20
Ob. do. 2nd Pref	79½	¾
Lombardo-Venetian	8⅞	9⅛
Varna 3 per cent	6¾	7
Nitrate Railway	25½	¾
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	13¼	¾
City Bank	20	1
Consolidated Bank	7¾	8¼
Imperial Ottoman	10¼	⅞
London and County	84½	5½
Union of London	38½	9½
London and West.	66	7
London Joint Stock	33½	9½
Nat. Prov. of Eng	43	4
Stand. Bnk. S. Afric.	47½	8½
MINES		
Indian Consolidated	¾	⅜
Mysore shares	2⅞	3⅛
Ooregums	1⅛	¼
Cape Copper	3¼	4
Namaqua	2⅛	3⅛
Mason and Barry	9⅛	⅛
Rio Tinto	21½	⅝
Montana £1 shares	1⅝	¾
De Beers	26⅛	⅜
Kimberley Cent.	30½	1
TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES		
Anglo-American	40½	1½
Do. Pref.	67	8
Direct Unit. States	9⅛	⅛
Eastern	12⅛	⅜
Ditto Extension	1¾	¼
United Telephone	1⅞	⅛
Globe Teleg. Trust	0½	⅛
TRAMWAYS, ETC.		
London Gen. Om.	203	8
London Street	12	14
London Tramway	14	15
North Metropolitan	18	½
WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterworks	253	8
East London	197	202
Grand Junction	124	8
Kent	269	74
Lambeth	258	63
New River, New	347	52
S'thwrk. & Vauxhall	161	6
W. Middlesex	264	9
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.		
Gaslight & Coke A.	235	60
Imp. Continental	206	9
South Metropolitan	315	20
Brush Elec. Lt. (£4 pd)	3	½
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp	8½	¾
Guinness and Co.	317½	22½
Hotchkiss	8⅞	9⅛
Bryant and May	12⅛	13
Spratt's Patent	9¾	10¼
P. and O. Steam	62	4
Royal Mail Steam	59	61
Nat. Discount Co.	11	½
Hudson's Bay	19	½
Suez Canal	87	½
E. & W. Ind. Dock	26	8
London and St. Katharia	42	2

MR. JOHN MORLEY ON IRISH QUESTIONS.

The Marquis of Ripon and Mr. John Morley, M.P., attended on Saturday afternoon a great Liberal demonstration which was held on Lord Ripon's estate at Nocton, in Lincolnshire, and which proved in every way a brilliant success. The gathering was probably the largest which has ever been brought together with a political object within the county. Mr. Morley, speaking of the work of the Session, reminded Mr. Goschen of the withdrawal of the temperance clauses, and said little had been done by the Local Government Act to give increased power to the labourer or small shopkeeper; and nothing would be done in that direction until power was in the hands of bolder men, with a truer faith in popular principles. He then referred to Irish subjects.

CROMWELL AND SMITH.

Mr. Morley said "one word" as to the manner in which the Parnell Commission Bill was passed. "I dare say you have all read how at a certain point the Government came down and said: 'We will have no more discussion of this bill. At one o'clock to-morrow morning the whole of the clauses of the bill shall be put without debate.' ('Shame.') Gentlemen, you may well cry 'Shame.' I do not think the country realises how terrible a revolution does such a step as that mark in the procedure of the free Parliament of our country. The closure I have no objection to—I think we need the closure; but the notion that our Parliament, which has hitherto passed measures after debate and discussion, shall now be called upon to pass them without debate and without discussion by the will of a majority is one of the most revolutionary things that has been done in our time. And, gentlemen, I look upon these revolutionary things with the greatest misgiving. It is not light work to build up such a Constitution as ours. I stood this morning in front of that sublime and stupendous cathedral at Lincoln, and I thought, How many years of labour, how much devotion, how much genius, how much faith, have gone to the building of that great pile! But depend upon it, it would be easier to set to work to build a cathedral like Lincoln over again, far easier, than it would be to build up again that great fabric of freedom and wisdom which the devotion of our forefathers built up for us. By such a step as that taken the other day, it is this Constitutional Government who are shaking the faith of the people of this country in parliamentary government. Cromwell was thought to have done a very strong thing when he sent one of his captains to turn the members out of the House of Commons, to lock the door, and to walk away with the key in his pocket. But I do not see myself much difference between Colonel Pride walking away with the key of the House in his pocket, and Mr. Smith bringing down this resolution of his and turning us practically out of the House of Commons, forbidding us to debate this important measure. They did the same thing last year. But mark one thing: they only do it when it is an Irish measure.

MR. BALFOUR'S BLUDGEONING IN PARLIAMENT AND OUT.

It cannot have escaped you (Mr. Morley continued) if you read what goes on in Parliament at all, this remarkable fact—that on no single occasion has the Chief Secretary for Ireland admitted that there was a single fault in a single subordinate agent of his Government. No policeman, according to him, has ever done an imprudent thing, and no resident magistrate has ever done an unlawful thing. There is no single blunder to which we call his attention, or to which our Irish friends call his attention, upon which he does not come down to the House and defend the blunder in very loud tones and with a great many blows upon the box in front of him—yes, and the graver the blunder the more menacing are the tones and the worse it is for the box. Well, none of us can suppose that in every case the Irish constabulary and the Irish resident magistrates are right. What I say is this, that it would be better in many respects if the Irish were under the rule of some Turkish Pasha. If the Irish were governed on Oriental principles, there are one or two gentlemen whom I could name who would before now have had from Dublin either a bowstring or a cup of coffee. But what we see in the House of Commons is this—I call your attention to it—that whatever any constable says must be true, and whatever any Irish member says must be false. That is so. We see it day by day. Nothing that an Irish member can say that is not treated with contempt and contumely. I think almost the very last time I was in the House of Commons, the week before last, Mr. Hooper, who is a member who has been in prison, like no small proportion of the Irish members, was giving his experience of prison treatment; and what did the Chief Secretary say? Did he listen to him? He used the language which is the language of insult. He said: "By the forms of Parliament, I am prevented from saying more than that the hon. member is labouring under a delusion." Well, all that means, in plain English, that but for the forms of Parliament he would have said that the member, Mr. Hooper, was telling a falsehood. And so it is. It is assumed that everything that is said by an Irish member is untrue. I say, gentlemen, you may think what you please about that, but you cannot wonder that treatment of that kind from the responsible governor of the people of Ireland stirs despair and exasperation in the minds of its parliamentary representatives. All this batoning and bludgeoning out of Parliament, all this insult in Parliament, is fatal, believe me, to any reconciliation between England and Ireland.

A SHOCKING EAST-END MURDER.

A shocking case of murder and attempted suicide occurred at the Isle of Dogs, Poplar, yesterday morning. Levi Richard Bartlett, a general dealer, sixty years of age, of 248, Manchester-road, Cubitt-town, murdered his wife, Elizabeth, aged fifty-six years, by striking her on the head with a 14lb. hammer while she was asleep, afterwards cutting his own throat with a razor. He had, it is stated, been drinking heavily for some time past, and was very drunk on Saturday. He and his wife frequently quarrelled, but the neighbours state that nothing of the sort was heard on Saturday night.

Mrs. Emma Mears, who is a sister of the victim, and lives at 290 in the same thoroughfare, has made a statement, in which she says she saw her sister and Bartlett just before twelve o'clock on Saturday night. Mrs. Bartlett then complained of pains in her throat, but was otherwise in good spirits. At 5.30 yesterday morning she was told by a boy that Bartlett had cut his wife's throat. She went to the house and found her unconscious, and bleeding from the head. She died about an hour afterwards. The husband was sitting on the bed with his throat cut. Thomas J. Jones, milk carrier, who lives at the same house, states that Bartlett entered his room yesterday morning at a quarter to five and asked one of the lodgers if he could give him anything to drink, but he had none to give him. He then held out his hand to Jones, saying, "Good-bye; I have settled the missus, and I am going to settle myself." The man did not think anything of it, as they frequently quarrelled, but on going into the room half an hour later he found Bartlett with a razor in his hand and bleeding from the throat. Bartlett, who was removed to Poplar Hospital, is in a very precarious state, the windpipe being severed.

ROMANTIC DOUBLE SUICIDE.

The coroner for South Wilts held an inquest at Fisherton Delamere, near Wylye, on the bodies of Albert Sparey, of Warminster, and Elizabeth Ann Yeates, of Wylye. The bodies were found on Saturday morning in a mill stream clasped in each other's arms and tied tightly together with the girl's belt and a couple of pocket handkerchiefs. On the bank were their hats, and letters addressed to their parents stating that they "had lived and loved together and both wished a watery bed. They fully intended to do it, for nothing could part them, and they died in a good cause." The man wished his mother to take great care of his book entitled "Faithful and True." An open note written by the girl stated that they drowned themselves through her sister and Sparey's brother. Nothing transpired to throw any further light on the matter, which the coroner said was a case of the most premeditated suicide he had ever known. The jury returned a verdict of *felo de se*.

THE WALTHAMSTOW POISONING CASE.

At the Stratford petty sessions on Saturday, William Barber, chemist's assistant, was again brought up on remand charged on suspicion of having caused the death of Annie Mary French, the wife of a provision dealer's manager, at Walthamstow, by administering to her a certain noxious drug on July 21 last. This is the fourth appearance of the accused before the magistrate.

Dr. Tidy, who had analyzed the viscera, gave evidence. Among the contents of the stomach he found two-tenths of a grain of morphia, but could not discover any other poison present. From other discoveries he was of opinion that morphia had been absorbed into the system, and death in his opinion resulted from morphia. If chloroform had been present in the viscera he should have expected to have found traces of it. As a rule one would detect the smell immediately on opening the jars if it had been swallowed. In the case of inhalation, death usually took place during the time of administering. If chloroform had been swallowed, he should first have expected to have seen the stomach inflamed; and, secondly, to have perceived the smell. During the inhalation of chloroform there was vomiting, but in this case the stomach was full. In the course of swallowing chloroform some part of it went away and was inhaled in the usual manner. Morphia existed in various preparations.

Miss Nellie Cashman spoke to calling at Barber's shop on the day of the death of deceased, and seeing a woman there. The woman left the shop first. Prisoner was agitated and flushed and he gave her a penny more change than he should have done.—Mr. Hamilton, the prisoner's employer was the next witness, and spoke to finding in one of the ordinary shop bottles an ounce of hydrochlorate of morphia.—Constable Buchanan then detailed the circumstances of Barber's arrest, which have been already published. At the station Barber made the following statement:—"I am William Barber, chemist, of Walthamstow. She took a dose out of a bottle in my absence while I was serving in the shop. I do not believe she drank the poison herself. She did not seem a woman who would do such a thing. We were great friends, but there was nothing improper between us. I intended giving myself up at Walthamstow to-day, but could not quite make up my mind. I slept out three nights. I wandered about on the banks of the river, and at Richmond Park I rode about in a cab and got robbed by some woman." He also produced a statement in writing similar in effect to that he had spoken, and which was now produced by Detective-Inspector Glasse.

This concluded the case for the prosecution, and the prisoner, in reply to the charge, said he was not guilty, and he would reserve his defence. He was then committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

TWENTY NEGROES KILLED.—A number of the negro inhabitants of Freetown, Louisiana, having become disorderly, the white portion of the population sought to expel them from the parish. A conflict insued with the result that twenty of the negroes were killed and several others wounded. No question of politics was involved in the dispute.

THE RESTORATION OF PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL.—Renewed efforts are being made to raise funds to complete the restoration of Peterborough Cathedral. Canon Argles has promised a second subscription of £500, in addition to £1,200 given by him for a Bishop's throne and choir pulpit, and a further £500 for other special portions of choir fittings. Lady Elizabeth Villiers has given 1,200 towards choir stalls. Collecting boxes placed in the cathedral have realized £965.

A MONUMENT ON SNOWDON.—A massive cross of Sicilian marble, standing six feet high and discernible for miles around, has been erected upon one of the highest spurs of Snowdon as a memorial to Mr. Alfred Evans, the young Liverpool solicitor who was killed on Whit Monday when making the ascent of the mountain from the Capel-Curig side. He was in company with three friends, and, venturing too near the edge of a precipice, fell over and was killed on the spot. The cross, which was erected by his friends, bears an account of the disaster, and stands exactly upon the place where it occurred.

FATAL GUN ACCIDENT.—On Saturday information was given to the West Kent coroner that Arthur Wilson, aged sixteen, who was engaged in scaring birds at Mr. Bartholomew's farm at Erith, had been found in a field with a frightful gunshot wound in the breast. A gun, which the deceased had for the purpose of frightening the birds, was found close by the body. It was evident that the gun had been discharged whilst heavily loaded, and that the charge had entered the breast of the unfortunate youth, but how or by whom the weapon was fired is not known.

GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS.—Preparations are being made to demolish a considerable amount of building property on the west side of Bishopsgate-street, to form the site of the enlargement of the Great Eastern Railway Company's station in Liverpool-street, the cost of which is estimated at a million sterling. Meanwhile the company are about to widen their line between Liverpool-street and Bethnal-green Junction, to the extent of two additional lines of rails, this undertaking involving the construction of an underground line from Wheeler-street to Brick-lane, northwards of the existing line.

HYDROPHOBIA.—A shocking case of hydrophobia was admitted to the St. Thomas's Hospital on Saturday afternoon, and terminated fatally in the evening. The name of the deceased was W. Fox, aged thirty-two years, a hairdresser, residing in Tennison-street, York-road, Lambeth. Recently married, he returned to England from Germany, his native country, with his young wife, about a fortnight ago, and on Friday week had a warm bath in the Blackfriars-road. Immediately afterwards he exhibited symptoms of hydrophobia. On Saturday morning he became worse, foamed at the mouth, and at frequent intervals was attacked with vomiting and acute spasms. On his admission to the hospital he had to be guarded by several persons. The officials at the hospital were informed that Fox, some time ago, had been attacked by a dog and bitten, and prior to his removal he had been attended by a French physician.

Dr. Palliser's Patient.

By GRANT ALLEN.

I.

LET me begin with a few brief words of apology for the necessary abruptness of my hasty narrative.

I am an English physician, practising in Paris. I have little skill in the use of the pen; but I desire before I die to place upon record for the benefit of posterity whatever I know about the so-called mystery of the Sentier des Mélèzes.

Everybody remembers that singular episode of the discovery of a body, under most extraordinary circumstances, in the least frequented part of the Bois de Boulogne. I desire now to explain its occurrence there. But as it is just conceivable that by some unexpected mishap this paper might come to light during my own lifetime, and as I shrink from causing any unnecessary pain or distress to my dear wife, who is ignorant of much of it, and for whose sake alone I have hitherto kept silence, I will take the liberty of narrating my story in my own way, so that no legal inquiry can possibly result, to me or to others, from my premature disclosures. For the same reason, I will not allude at all to the antecedent circumstances of the Affaire Duvernay, which brought about the incidents here described, and which the judicious reader, without further explanation, will no doubt sufficiently infer for himself in the course of my strange but true narrative.

They call it the mystery of the Sentier des Mélèzes. Nobody but myself knows exactly how the body got there. Except for what I may choose to disclose here, nobody but myself will ever know it.

At the time of which I write I was not yet married, and I inhabited a large residential flat in a handsome house on the Avenue Victor Hugo. My practice lay for the most part among my own countrymen and the American residents, but I had also on my lists a considerable sprinkling of French patients, amongst whom I may specially mention a Mdme. de Montenacque, in a small street near the Place des Etats-Unis. These preliminary explanations thus curtly made, I will without further delay plunge at once *in medias res*, and proceed to the narration of my painful story.

II.

On the morning of the operation, as soon as the preliminary work was well finished, Beaumont, the assistant, brought the patient to my door in a covered carriage.

A detestable person, Beaumont; but in these affairs, for humanity's sake, a medical man mustn't be too particular. I thought the end justified the means. I had reason to repent my error afterwards in sackcloth and ashes.

Everything, indeed, had been fully arranged for the best beforehand. I had sent out Clairette, my housemaid, early that morning, on a chance errand to take a note to a friend in a distant quarter of Paris beyond the river: and I had despatched my cook in search of dinner to the Central Market: so nobody was left at home but myself to receive and settle in the patient comfortably. In such a case, it was necessary above all things to avoid suspicion. My medical brethren must guess at nothing. Only the porter at the hall door would know I had received—not a patient, but a large parcel; and when Clairette and the cook returned from their errands they would merely learn I had taken in a pressing case from the Accident Ward in their absence, as I had often done before in the interests of science.

For medicine to me is more than an art: it is a hobby, a pleasure, I may even say a passion. The desire to alleviate pain and to minister to misery had become in my case a part of my being. I had grown, in fact, to live for the art of healing.

At the exact hour when I expected Beaumont, however, a most unfortunate contretemps, as I imagined, occurred. I was observing with delight the complete recovery of my last guinea-pig from its severe attack, when I was startled to hear, on the very stroke of eleven, a loud knock at the outer door, and to see an unknown stranger, bearded like the pard, enter my study with a mysterious air of importance and secrecy.

He was a tall, dark man, dressed in an open light summer overcoat, and with bushy black beard and thick moustache hiding almost all the features of his face. He took me aback by his sudden apparition. A person as unlike Beaumont indeed as possible; for Beaumont, with whom I had arranged the whole affair beforehand, to avoid unnecessary complications with his principal, was light-complexioned, fair-haired, and close-shaven.

"An unexpected patient!" I cried to myself with much chagrin. "How extremely unfortunate! How absurdly ill-timed! Unless I can get rid of him in two minutes by the clock, all will be spoiled! And after all my trouble! What a fool the porter was to admit him, when I gave strict injunctions no one was to be shown up except on presenting my card with an order written on it! Decidedly the proprietor must give that wretched fellow his *congé* to-morrow!"

However, I managed to gulp down my anxiety and disappointment somehow under these painful circumstances, and motioned the stranger into an easy chair with such grace as I could summon up at so untoward a moment.

"Monsieur," I said, hastily, "forgive my bluntness. I am very pressed for time. An appointment hurries me. If this is a professional visit have the kindness to describe your symptoms as quickly as possible—or else, perhaps—yes, that would be better—you wouldn't mind waiting in my study here for half an hour, would you, while I go to attend upon a very critical and serious case?" For, indeed, unless the carotid artery was seen to at once, and the circulation efficiently provided for, by my aërostatic apparatus, the patient might slowly bleed to death, in spite of all my pains, as an immediate sequel to so serious an operation.

Judge of my surprise, then, when the stranger, instead of answering, burst at once into a suppressed laugh of intense amusement. "Ha, ha, ha!" he cried, "that's indeed a triumph. Then I've succeeded to a marvel! I am more than lucky. I thought I'd deceive the rest of the world, of course, but I hardly anticipated I should also deceive you yourself, who expected me, M. le docteur!"

I jumped back in astonishment. I knew the voice at once. The tall, dark man was himself the messenger I was so anxiously awaiting at that very moment.

"What, Beaumont!" I exclaimed, in a low voice of surprise. "This is in effect something like a disguise! I should never have known you if I hadn't heard your own voice. You might pass unobserved through all Paris got up like that. The detectives themselves, clever fellows as they are, would never suspect you."

"We risk a great deal, monsieur," Beaumont answered, gravely. "It was necessary to assume an efficient disguise. Except for the cause of science—and an adequate remuneration—I should never have consented to such a marked departure from professional etiquette. I've compromised myself, in fact, by agreeing to it at all. It's almost as much as my place is worth; and a professional man in the Government service" (he drew himself up and swelled with comic importance) "ought to be very careful of his reputation." He touched the red ribbon of the Legion of Honour that hung at his button-hole, for of course he was *décoré*. "I am the depositary, in fact, of the honour of France," he said. "The honour of France must not suffer at my hands. Except for you, M. le docteur, to whose leniency we owe so great a debt, we would have refused, I assure you, my principal and I, to countenance so doubtful and irregular a proceeding."

I swallowed down my scruples as to dealing with such a pretentious, unsatisfactory fellow, and answered merely, "Then I may go down at once and claim the patient?"

"Yes," Beaumont answered, in a low tone. "We have him here at the door ready for you in a carriage."

"And you can trust the driver?" I asked.

Beaumont shrugged his shoulders and raised sceptically his false eyebrows. "Can we trust anybody?" he answered, with a short laugh. "Who wants a thing well done does it himself, and tells nobody, says our Norman proverb. We have trusted no cabman: we have risked no confederates. It is Monsieur himself who sits on the box and holds the reins. He has brought the poor sufferer round, after taking all due precautions, in his own private brougham."

"What, not Sans——?" I began; but before I could fully utter the great man's name Beaumont had checked me with an authoritative gesture. "Mention no private persons, I beg of you, Monsieur," he exclaimed with some alarm. "Walls have ears, above all in Paris. To mention a fact in a corner is to proclaim it on the housetops." He lowered his voice. "Let none of us speak of the operation openly," he said, "even when alone among ourselves. Suffice it to remember that the patient, as we ourselves assured him before we operated, has been suffering from a severe and malignant cancerous growth, and that Monsieur, my principal, has with your valuable aid successfully performed tracheotomy upon him. Let Monsieur be nameless. Let me be nameless. Let the Affaire Duvernay never be mentioned. Let the patient be known only as Bernascon. (His real name, by the way, I learn, is not Bosquet, but Bernascon.) It is better so. We can never be too careful. Considering the antecedents, and the need for concealment, we can't secure ourselves too much against listening ears and prying eyes. Professional reputations should be jealously guarded. My principal's reputation as one of the most skilful surgical operators in Paris is now at stake. If it were known to the faculty that a single case among his operations had not succeeded, his reputation would be clean gone. Government would dismiss him from a lucrative post. . . . And then the perquisites!. . . . It lies with you, therefore, M. le docteur, to conceal everything. Your success is our failure. My principal, having yielded to a generous impulse, feels himself now simply at your mercy. He is waiting below this moment in great trepidation. Let us descend to him at once; let us relieve his anxiety."

III.

If I had failed to recognize Beaumont in the singular disguise he had managed to assume, I should certainly far more have failed to recognize his distinguished principal as that pillar of the profession sat on the box in the complete costume of a Parisian coachman. All who have had the opportunity of meeting Monsieur, as his friends call him with Royal brevity, must have observed his strikingly dignified, not to say coldly official, manner, and the urbane grace of that sphinx-like smile which so often plays around the corners of the lips in successful specialists. But no one could have recognized that keen surgical practitioner in the stolid and well-trained Parisian servant who sat bolt upright on the box before me, and flicked an imaginary fly from his off-side horse's ear with practised dexterity. Even I myself could scarcely detect the nervous twitching of his thin lips as he eyed me askance with an anxious side glance, or the faint trembling of the fingers that barely retained their firm hold upon the reins he seemed to grip so easily and so carelessly in his grasp as he bowed to me.

"Good heavens!" I cried, as I opened the carriage door and beheld the state of my expected patient, "you don't mean to say you've brought him here *so*, do you?"

"Why, yes," Beaumont answered, with a meaning glance, and a puckered eyebrow nodded angrily towards me to command my silence. "We thought the . . . goods . . . you understand . . . would come best—covered."

"Well, well; we'll carry them up as they stand there," I murmured anxiously, casting a doubtful glance at my unfortunate patient, whom I had certainly not expected to receive in so singular a condition. "The goods, no doubt, are exactly as ordered: but I must say I'm a little afraid the—

the packing will, perhaps, have somewhat damaged them. I doubt if we can ever—get them out straight again—after so curious a method of transporting across Paris such fragile fabrics."

"Oh, they're all right, bless you," Beaumont answered with a forced laugh. "We send out goods constantly from our manufactory in the same way, and I'm bound to say none of our customers ever yet complained of us. Monsieur gives universal satisfaction to his clients, indeed." He dropped his voice to a confidential tone. "Our patients never come back to find fault," he whispered grimly. "If this one grumbles, he'll be the first grumbler we've ever had in our surgery since Monsieur and I have been in practice together."

"I hope," I answered, with a quiet deep breath, "I shall be able to repair any damage done, so that this client will be better pleased with the result of your operations than any one else who has gone through your treatment."

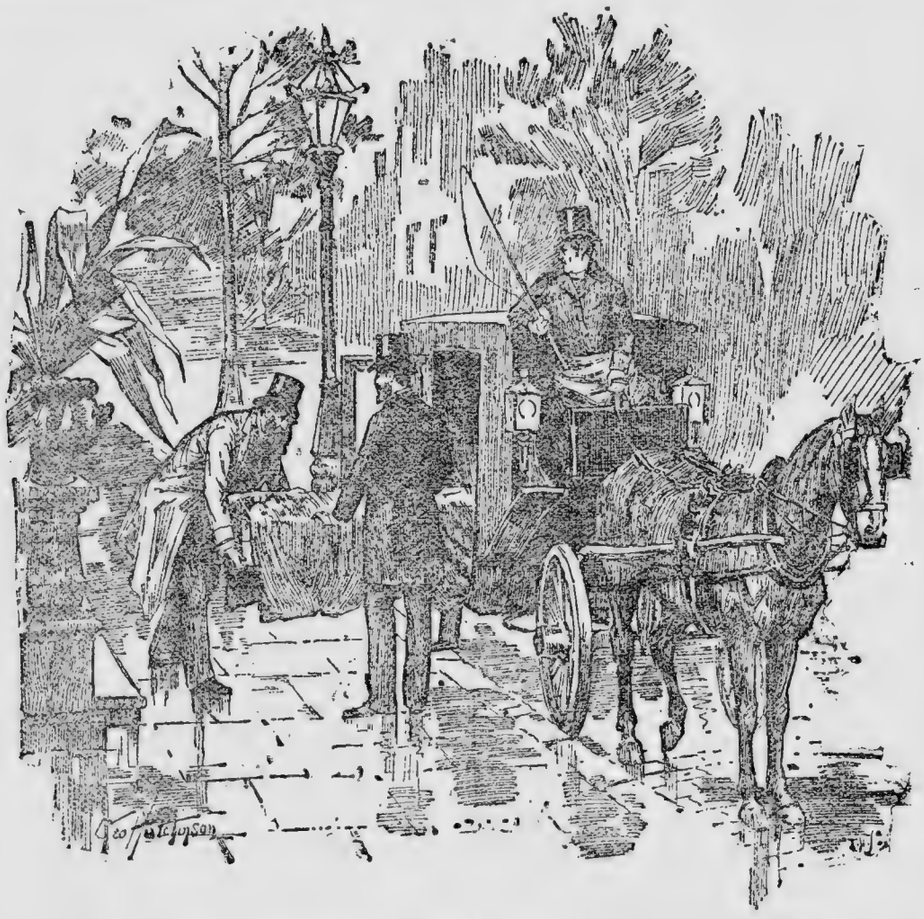
Beaumont smiled. And with that grim jest we turned to the carriage, where I helped him to lift out the unconscious patient, and carry him up in his strange condition before the very eyes of the unconcerned and unsuspecting hall porter.

As we laid him down on the spare bed, I examined the tube and the closed artery carefully.

His callousness shocked me. The worst of these out-of-the-way professional experiments is certainly the association with unpleasant persons into contact with whom they temporarily bring one. I didn't like Beaumont, I'm bound to confess, for I'm a sensitive man: but I had to employ him if I wanted to get hold of a proper patient to try my method upon. Science is imperative in matters like this. You must make your experiment *in corpore vili*. And the *corpus vile* itself must be procured somehow.

I did not, however, attempt to conceal my disgust at the man's vulgar greed, as I went to my davenport and took out of it the stipulated sum in an envelope. Beaumont's eyes glistened as he tore it open and examined the notes. "Right!" he cried carelessly, thrusting them into his pocket as soon as counted. "Believe me, mon Docteur, it's the last affair of the kind I shall be professionally engaged upon as long as I live. They're too risky by half, these experimental cases. Saving life is not to my taste. Science, for me, may go hang in future. Stick to the regular trade, say I, and no diversions. The game, after all, isn't worth the candle."

I let him go, insensible wretch that he was, incapable of understanding the ardour of scientific pursuit in an educated mind, and I watched him



WE TURNED TO THE CARRIAGE, WHERE I HELPED HIM TO LIFT OUT THE UNCONSCIOUS PATIENT.

"Monsieur has done his part with consummate skill, I must admit," I said, much gratified at the result. "His manipulation does him the highest credit. His part of the operation has been most excellently performed. I can hardly admire his professional deftness and neatness of hand enough. No nervousness there, no uncertainty of treatment! With pains, the patient ought certainly now to do well. This occasion, rest assured, will mark a real epoch in the evolutionary history of experimental surgery. It will be a great consolation to you, M. Beaumont, if the operation succeeds, to think that you assisted, in whatever capacity, at the birth of a new and important development of life-saving processes."

Beaumont smiled a sardonic smile. "Life-saving is hardly my object in life," the fellow murmured in a caustic voice. "It's not professional. The surgeon cuts up: the physician cures. Every man to his trade, and *le bon Dieu* for us all. It will be a greater comfort to me," he went on, in his morose way, "to get paid the stipulated sum for my trouble, and clear out of this, M. le Médecin, as soon as possible."

and his principal disappear round the corner, well pleased to have got rid of them, as I hoped, for ever. "Allez!" the fellow cried to the supposed coachman, as he banged the carriage door and flung himself back on the comfortable seats of his master's brougham. I trusted I had seen the last of his cold, hard face, and of Monsieur's too. I could use them as tools, for science' sake, when need would have it, but only with profound and shuddering reluctance.

To calm my nerves, I turned once more to the poor senseless wretch who lay cold upon the bed. Careful examination showed me at once that the larynx, though cut clean through by the knife, was yet by no means hopelessly injured; that the carotid artery and jugular vein had been adequately restored in those skilful hands with aërostatic adjustments, by my special process; and that the spinal cord, although deeply affected, was still quite capable, with a little care, of performing all its normal functions. The case, in short, though one of a sort usually given up as beyond human hope, yet inspired me (enthusiast that I am) with a vague expectation that with care and good fortune life might still go on after some days with average regularity. A healing process could still be set up; all trace of the operation could still be eradicated. I knew, indeed, I was embarking upon a bold and doubtful course of treatment; but professional zeal for restoring health in the most hopeless circumstances fired me with unwonted and untiring energy. I had everything at hand ready and waiting. I set to work at once on my preconcerted plan. I put my apparatus in action vigorously. And I worked till I was almost ready to drop in my intense anxiety to save the life of my unfortunate patient.

When Clairette returned, I called her into the room. I had cleared away the mess and made all straight on the floor by that time. "Another case from the Hôtel Dieu," I said to her casually, with a nod towards the bed where the patient lay. "This one's almost past recovery, I fear; but all the same, I mean to do my best for him. There's a chance still, and any chance is well worth trying. After all, to save life is the greatest glory and pride of the profession."

"And Monsieur's been working himself to death with it, I can see," Clairette replied, tossing her head in the air with the friendly freedom of Parisian servants. "Your face is all worn with anxiety and exertion. You've been doing too much! If Monsieur had a wife, *par exemple*, and I were that lady, I'd take care he took in no more of these experimental patients — toiling and slaving and wearing his life out over a hospital case, out of pure kind-heartedness. The last one died, that's one good thing—and I don't mind if this one dies to follow him."

I smiled a quiet smile, and went on keeping the lungs in full action. "He's still unconscious," I said; "quite, quite comatose—the effect of the chloroform they used as an anæsthetic hasn't yet worn off: but I hope and trust, by the aid of my new drug, which I've just injected, he'll be better to-morrow. Run down, Clairette, there's a good girl, and get me another jug of hot water at once from the porter's kitchen."

But I won't attempt to conceal the fact: I was glad to have got the introductory process so well over. It might be humane, but it was certainly illegal. The law discountenances these crucial experiments.

(To be continued.)

BYRON'S TOWN HOUSE.—"It is worthy of note," says a correspondent of *Notes and Queries*, "that in a few weeks the residence 13, Piccadilly-terrace, where Byron passed the wretched period of his married life, where Ada was born, and where he wrote some of his earlier poems, will have entirely changed its wonted appearance. Scaffolding warns us of the coming change, and soon we shall have No. 139, Piccadilly new vamped and faced with the corroding stone. I am thankful to have seen it as it was in Byron's time, and hope that some distinguishing mark may be set upon its walls which shall preserve it from oblivion."

AN APOLOGY FOR MOTHERS-IN-LAW. — Herr Adolf Kohut, of Zurich, has written a whole book in defence of the most abused of womankind. With a laudable chivalry, he has compiled in "Das Buch von der Schwiegermutter" an elaborate apology for mothers-in-law against the dramatists, the anecdotists, the comic draughtsmen, and the song-writers. The defence, however, is so constructed that it will be taken by many readers to be rather worse than an attack. In order to show how cruelly the mother-in-law has been abused in all ages and in all civilized lands, Herr Kohut has collected and related all the ugly stories, mischievous puns, and malicious proverbs upon which he can lay hands. It is true that he preaches a long moral sermon upon the injustice of the text. His text is long, and his sermon short, and we suspect that the text will be a great deal more popular than the sermon, and that if his book has a large sale it will be for the sake of its extraordinary wealth of anecdote and evidence damaging to his client.

THE LARGEST RAILWAY STATION IN EUROPE.—On Saturday the new central railway station at Frankfort-on-Main was opened to traffic for the first time. There was no ceremony. According to a local paper this station is the largest in Europe, and probably in the world, for it covers a superficial area of 31,248 square metres, thereby exceeding the area occupied by the St. Pancras railway station in London by 15,550 square metres, and that covered by the Central railway station at Munich and the Schlesischer Bahnhof in Berlin by 10,200 and 12,100 square metres respectively.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)

EVERY EVENING (except Saturday), at 8.15,
Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD as
DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE.

MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.
Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily from 10 to 5.

CRITERION THEATRE.

(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

BETSY, EVERY EVENING at 9. Messrs. W. Blakeley, H. Standing, A. Maltby, A. Boucicault, and Geo. Giddens; Mesdames Rose Saker, F. Robertson, E. Terriss, F. Moore, E. Penrose, and Lottie Venne. Preceded by, at 8.15, THE DOWAGER. Doors open 7.45. N.B.—Stage and Auditorium Lighted entirely by Electricity.

ADELPHI THEATRE.

(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine. L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, H. Halley, &c.; Miss Millward; Mesdames Helen Forsyth, O. Nethersole, D. Drummond, E. Bufton, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, THE REFUGEES. Mr. D. Somers, Miss Agnes Miller, &c.

GAIETY.

GREAT SUCCESS of Miss SOPHIE EYRE as MARINA, NIGHTLY, at 8.45, supported by Misses Carlotta Leclercq, Enid Leslie, Lucy Buckstone; Messrs. E. D. Ward, Herbert Waring, Julian Cross, Fred. Terry, H.Maxwell, James East, Glenn Wynn, &c. Preceded at 8 by POLLY'S VENTURE. Mrs. Smale, &c. Box-office open 10 till 6 daily. "SHE" will soon be ready for production. Manager, Mr. John Cobbe.

COMEDY THEATRE.

LAST TWO NIGHTS for the present. At Nine o'clock, THE ARABIAN NIGHTS. On WEDNESDAY NEXT August 22, will be produced a New Farcical Comedy, in three acts, entitled UNCLES and AUNTS, by W. LESTOCQ and WALTER EVERARD. Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. F. Hawtrey, Mr. Walter Everard, and Mr. W. Lestocq. Miss Cissy Grahame, Miss Marie Daly, Miss Caroline Elton, Miss Kate Lee, and Miss Vane Featherston. —Business Manager, Mr. E. F. BRADLEY.

TERRY'S THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)
(Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.)

The safest and coolest Theatre in London, constructed entirely with concrete and iron, absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout with electricity.

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A. W. PINERO'S New Three Act Domestic Drama, SWEET LAVENDER. 156th Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, T. C. Valentine, Bernard Gould, F. Kerr, Sant Matthews; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, and Norreys. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Seats at the Libraries and Box-office, open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2,702.

GLOBE THEATRE.

(Lessees and Managers, Mr. EDGAR BRUCE and Miss EDITH WOODWORTH.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.45, BOOTLES' BABY. 91st Time. Messrs. Charles Sugden, Edmund Maurice, C. W. Garthorne, Forbes Dawson, Gilbert Farquhar, C. Kent, and Charles Collette; Mesdames Webster, Henrietta Lindley, Rose Evelyn, Maud Merrill, Minnie Terry. At 7.45, TRUE COLOURS. Messrs. Forbes Dawson, A. J. Byde; Mesdames Giffard and Florence Grant.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.

(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.35, WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF.
At 8.30, punctually, DOROTHY. (695th Performance.)
Mesdames Effie Chapuy, Florence Perry, Harriet Coveney, E. Weston, and Amy Augarde; Messrs. Ben Davies, Furneaux Cook, Arthur Williams, J. Le Hay, Edward Griffin, and C. Hayden Coffin. Musical Director, M. Ivan Caryll. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open from 10 till 5.
MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ITALIAN EXHIBITION.

In Concert Hall and Theatre, FRATELLI PRANDI'S MARIONETTES, "AMOR" and "THE LIVING SKELETON," at 3 and 7.45 P.M. The NEAPOLITAN MANDOLINISTS at 4.30 and 9 P.M. The PAGGI CONCERTS at 6.15 P.M.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

GRAND BALLET. FAIRY SCENES of "MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM," THIS and EVERY EVENING. Marvellous Success. Arranged and produced by Madame Katti Lanner and Mr. Oscar Barrett. Can be witnessed by thousands without extra payment.

SAVOY.—Proprietor and Manager, R. D'OYLY CARTE.—THIS EVENING, at 8.30, THE MIKADO, Japanese Opera. By W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN. At 7.30, MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Box-office open from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M.

SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.—THIS and EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, and SATURDAY AFTERNOON, at 2.30, until further notice. Messrs. G. Grossmith, R. Barrington, R. Temple, R. Cummings, and J. G. Robertson; Mesdames G. Ulmar, S. Grey, A. Cole, and Rosina Brandram.

SAVOY.—THE MIKADO.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PICTURE of the GREAT FALLS, original effects, by PHILIPPOTEAUX. Pleasant Lounge, Music, American Museum, Electric Light. Refreshments by Buguinot. Admission 1s. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station.

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ILFRACOMBE.—The ILFRACOMBE HOTEL.—Thoroughly furnished, equipped, and decorated. 250 Rooms, Eight Lawn Tennis Courts, Large Swimming Bath, Private Baths. Descriptive Tariff of Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL COVENT GARDEN.—Season 1888.
FREEMAN THOMAS' SEVENTH ANNUAL SERIES of PROMENADE CONCERTS
THIS EVENING, at 8.0. ADMISSION ONE SHILLING.
Grand Orchestra of 150 Performers and Band of the Coldstream Guards combined.
Conductor: Mr. A. GWYLLYM CROWE.
SMOKING LOUNGES IN ALL PARTS OF THE THEATRE.
Vocalists This Evening: NIKITA, Mdme. ANTOINETTE STERLING, and Mr. HENRY PIERCY. Mr. J. RADCLIFF (Solo Flute).
Prices of admission:—Private Boxes from 10s. 6d. to £3 3s.; Grand Circle seats (numbered and reserved), 2s. 6d.; First Circle (numbered and reserved), 2s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, Amphitheatre, and Promenade, One Shilling. Doors open 7.30; commence at 8. Box-office open daily 10 to 5.
SEASON TICKETS (transferable) ONE GUINEA.

MR. SIMS REEVES and NIKITA will appear TO-MORROW (Tuesday) Admission One Shilling. No extra charge.
FREEMAN THOMAS' PROMENADE CONCERTS, COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

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THE SHAM FIGHT, PARADE GROUND, AND GRAND STAND.
THE HORSE SHOW.
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THE BRITISH ARMY QUADRILLES BY FOUR MILITARY BANDS AND PIPERS AND DRUMMERS OF THE SCOTS GUARDS.
THE FINE ART DEPARTMENT AND LOAN COLLECTION.
THE ROCKS, CAVES, AND DRIPPING WELL.
THE RUINS OF BLARNEY CASTLE.
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PERFORMANCES BY HERCAT IN ROYAL IRISH THEATRE.
The press throughout the length and breadth of the land have unanimously pronounced this the most useful, practical, interesting, and attractive of all the Exhibitions.
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THE CO-OPERATIVE FESTIVAL AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

ON Saturday the nave of the Crystal Palace was for the nonce turned into one great Covent Garden, and the stir and bustle below the vaulted roof began almost as early as the "struggle for life" habitually does in the great London vegetable and flower market. Exhibitors from co-operative societies all over the country were busy with their goods, consisting of innumerable flowers and great quantities of vegetables, all of which had been brought up to win prizes and medals. At ten o'clock the sight in the Palace, which was rapidly filling with visitors, was as unique as it was pretty. Hercules, surrounded by, and valorously looking down upon, a table on which, daintily arranged, stood plate after plate full of potatoes, pink and purple, and yellow and brown, was very charming; and Venus, holding her apple above an exhibition of gooseberries, some of which were fully as big as the famous apple, made a pretty picture. The air was full of the flavour of luscious nectarines and golden rock melons, and through them came every now and then the waft of the perfume of the tall lilies, towering, fair and pure, among all the thousand flowers which filled table after table. Sweet peas innumerable, and in large bundles of thousands, modestly tried for a prize; collections of French marigolds in every imaginable shade of orange velvet, roses of colour which as yet have found no name

verbenas, gladioli, holyhocks, pansies; Indian pinks, carnations, and all the rest of the summer flowers, stood side by side, their long line here and there interrupted by a balloon-shaped plumbago plant, covered with clusters of electric-blue blossoms, or by a fuchsia, the foliage of which was almost hidden under its thousand drooping buds.

But, besides the interesting horticultural, show another exhibition in a different part of the Palace was very interesting; and in it as well as in the flower show, the object of the festival was excellently shown. This object was to demonstrate to working men and women the varied powers and capacity for self-help existing in their own ranks, and to exhibit the progress already made by the industrial classes in co-operative storekeeping, and co-operative self-employment. Samples of modelling and painting, of wood-carving and engraving, of printing and bookbinding, of embroidery and needlework of every imaginable kind, were tastefully arranged, and the wall above one part of the exhibition was gay with specimens of patchwork made perfect. Among the curiosities of the exhibition was a very pretty lady's work-basket made of 10,000 pieces of wire, painted pink and gold; but the article which attracted most attention was a walking-stick made of 17,000 separate pieces of the *Graphic* and *Lloyd's Newspaper*. By taking the handle off, every one of these pieces could be taken off separately. The lighter parts of the stick, the colour of which was light and dark olive-green, were made from the margin of the papers; while the darker were the printed matter. Another very interesting part of the co-operative exhibition was the section where honey and all that belongs to bee-culture was shown. "British honeys" of many different colours and in as many different stages of perfection, wax made into artistic shapes, honey whole-meal bread, and honey in beverages and honey in the comb, were to be seen in endless variety. The exhibition will remain open during the week.

NOTES ON POPULAR PASTIMES.

Some big things were done in the cricket field last week—the Old Man, as W. G. is called, beat all previous records—his own included—by making two centuries in a first-class county match. The M.C.C. scored the highest total ever made on Lord's Ground, 735, against Wiltshire; and the Australians were beaten twice in a single innings by England and Notts respectively. Twice before has W. G. scored a hundred in each innings of a first-class match—namely, 130 and 102, not out, at Canterbury so long ago as 1868, and 101 and 103, not out, last year against Kent. No other batsman has ever performed the feat except in minor matches; one of the most remarkable instances I remember was a year or two ago at Lord's, when Mr. F. W. Maude—the same Mr. Maude whose conversion from Liberal Unionism to Home Rule created some small stir—made two scores of over 140, playing for M.C.C., against one of the minor counties.

* * * * *

The scoring in the Gloucester *v.* Yorkshire match, in which Grace made his 148 and 153, was most extraordinary. Gloucester made 248 in their first innings, to which Yorkshire responded with 461, Lewis Hall carrying his bat right through the innings for 129; then Gloucester went in again, and ran up 316, and Yorkshire made 28 without losing a wicket, the match being left drawn, greatly in favour of the northern county. Thus 1,305 runs were made for the loss of 29 wickets (Peel was called away in the middle of the match, and did not bat), a record which speaks well for the Clifton ground in dry weather. At the Oval the batting of the Australians was most disappointing, and they showed to no better advantage against Notts. It is a fact worthy of notice that in this second match Turner did not take a single wicket. I hear that "the Terror" is far from well, and the whole team seems to be a trifle stale and overworked. Still, I do not think that they would ever defeat a representative English eleven on a hard wicket.

* * * * *

I have by no means exhausted the list of cricket curiosities. Surrey has been beaten for the first time in first-class county cricket, and Derbyshire has actually won a match, defeating Yorkshire in good style by seven wickets. A success upon which I heartily congratulate that unlucky eleven.

* * * * *

For the Surrey eleven I can feel no sympathy whatever, for their defeat at the hands of the Lancashire men by nine wickets was simply and solely due to their own disgraceful fielding. Eccles made 184, but he was missed no less than nine times. The Surrey disaster is a somewhat amusing instance of the irony of fate, for admirers of the champion county had just begun to suggest that a match should be got up Surrey *v.* England. Of a truth pride goeth before a fall, and a haughty spirit before destruction! Moreover, I have grown tired of the talk about the invincibility of Surrey, and I have always sympathized with the historic Athenian who voted for the ostracism of Aristides because he was sick of hearing his praises.

* * * * *

Cricket for ladies bids fair to become a very popular pastime indeed. Many high-born dames and damsels took part last week in a match at Nun Appleton Park, Mr. Beckett's place in Yorkshire. The captains were Lady Milner and Miss Egerton, and among the fair players were the Ladies Idina and H. Nevill, the Hon. Misses Maude Lawrence, Muriel Brassey, M. A. Brassey, and V. Willoughby, and the Hon. Mrs. Garforth. The scoring was more than respectable, Miss Egerton's side compiling 42 and 173, and Lady Milner's 102 and 119 for six wickets.

* * * * *

Miss Fairfax was top scorer, with 72; Lady Milner made 41 not out, Lady Idina Nevill 23 and 22, and the Hon. M. A. Brassey 31 and 10 not out. No fewer than nine catches were held, and I notice that Miss Muriel Brassey was out l b w.

* * * * *

Cricket is not the only manly sport in which the softer sex engage at this time of year. Many ladies are at present shooting and fishing in Scotland, and the ancient notion that their share in the day's sport consists in bringing out the luncheon is rapidly dying out. I see that Sir Charles Tempest's grouse shooting party included two ladies, who rendered good accounts of themselves.

* * * * *

Big bags have been made on the Yorkshire moors: Lord Ripon's party shot 430 brace last Thursday, Captain Vyner and his friends 458 brace on the same day, and so forth, while big bags have been made by Lord Bective, Colonel Charlesworth and others.

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